



# AGAWAM

## Advertiser-News

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Cooper St.  
Agawam, MA 01001

Volume XIX Number 7

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

February 15, 1996



WALTER A. BALBONI

### Fond Memories Of Walt Balboni

Walt Balboni won't be paying his usual Thursday morning visit to our office any more. The longtime civic and political leader in the community for over 50 years died last Wednesday of cancer.

We knew something was amiss this past spring and summer when Walt didn't slowly trudge up our stairs on the second floor of the Crossroads Shoppes as often.

#### That Famous Hole-in-One

You see, Walt golfed every Thursday at the Agawam Country Club for the past few years and either on his way up or way back, he stopped by to bat the breeze on a variety of subjects. He seldom spoke about his golf game except for that famous hole-in-one a few years back. Somehow, that always came up in the conversation.

Walt Balboni loved to chat and then chat some more. He was terribly proud of this town, and was equally proud of his 50 years of service to it through a large menu of municipal commissions and boards, something like 26 years on the Agawam School Committee, a few terms on Town Council, Agawam UNICO and other clubs, and of course, St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Walt seldom talked about his business life. It was only several years ago he actually explained what he did for a living, and that was about the time he retired from his dental lab in Springfield. We always heard he had something to do with making teeth, but were never quite sure.

In fact, Walt was an astute businessman who operated a prosperous and successful business for many years, although in countless conversations, he didn't mention it.

The pool at the Agawam Junior High was named after Walt several years ago and of that, he beamed from ear to ear. It reaffirmed, in his mind, that his nearly 30 years on the School Committee counted.

SEE FOND MEMORIES - Page 2...

### Donald Hill Shows His Community Spirit!



ON FEBRUARY 8TH, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and the Agawam Fire Department presented Donald Hill of Feeding Hills a citation of appreciation. The citation was given to Hill to recognize his efforts during the recent snow emergency. Hill took it upon himself to clear the snow away from the hydrant in front of his home. For most, this poses no real problem, but for Hill, who is confined to a wheelchair, it showed extraordinary community spirit and concern for public safety. From left - Fire Chief David Pisano (holding his son, Jeremiah), Mary Hill, Donald Hill, Mayor Johnson, and Deputy Chief Steven Martin. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Memorial Golf Tourney Nets \$1,000 For AHS



THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPT. recently received a \$1,000 donation from Oak Ridge Golf Club on behalf of the Stwarz/Strycharz Memorial Golf Tournament. The Memorial Committee asked that the donation to put towards girls' sports at the school. From left - Joseph Zabielski, AHS acting principal; Ginny Abraham and Sue Nilsen, committee members; Kathy McSweeney, athletic director at AHS; and Viola Carney, committee member. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



## FOND MEMORIES - from Page 1...

Walt's few terms on the council failed to generate the kind of enthusiasm he felt for many of his other endeavors. This was mainly because he found being on the council a far different game than being a School Committeeman. He often spoke of his frustration in being involved with the type of heated debate and controversy always associated with the council.

He at times wondered out loud whether he was part of the problem or part of the solution. But he loved it and when he announced his decision not to seek reelection this past November, it was apparent that Walt was very sick.

## Proud As A Peacock

Through it all, however, Walt was as proud as a peacock of Agawam. He was born in Springfield and even graduated from rival West Springfield High. But he surely considered himself an Agawam guy.

His pride in the town was most evident when he told the story of being on a mountaintop in Switzerland one summer in the 1980's with his late wife, Rose, and son, John. Walt loved to travel and did more in his lifetime than most.

But the one story about his many travels that he told and retold in these offices was about how he wore an Agawam jacket of some kind on that mountaintop on that summer day and someone called him out because of instant recognition of the Agawam colors. He liked that a lot.

Maybe this further explains why Walt (as well as this newspaper) fought so vigorously against changing the name of the AHS sports team from "Brownies" to something else. This former West Side High grad understood what "Brownies" meant and the tradition it carries. So, because of Walt and others, the tide was turned and the "Brownies" rightfully remained.

Someone said "an era ended" with the passing of Walt. In our mind, the day Walt Balboni stopped trudging up those second floor stairs, a bit of an era had already ended for us.

by Ric Sardella  
editor & publisher

Check our classified

## Council To Consider Funding Union Raises; Funds For Special Training For Firemen

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

At its Tuesday, February 20th meeting, Town Council will consider funding two requests totalling \$108,945.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson is asking the council to transfer \$104,945 from the salary reserve account to cover the recently negotiated salary increases for the town's police officers, nurses, clerical and public works employees, department heads, and supervisors.

Of the eight unions representing municipal employees, five have agreed to a three-year contract running from July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1998. Negotiations have been ongoing since mid-1995.

The five unions have accepted the same cost of living adjustments accepted by the town's teachers in September. Over the three years of the contract, salaries will increase a total of nine percent. In the first year (fiscal year 1996), the increase will be two percent; in the two subsequent years, the increase will be 3.5 percent.

Negotiations are still ongoing between the town and the three unions representing police supervisors, firefighters, and building maintenance employees.

In a memo to the council, Johnson states, "Negotiations with the remaining three units are in progress, with completion anticipated later this spring."

Upon completion of those negotiations, separate transfer requests will be sent to the

council.

After funding the increases already negotiated, there will be \$132,555 remaining in the salary reserve account.

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In a separate account, Johnson is seeking \$4,000 from the reserve account to reimburse three firefighters for the cost of meals and tolls during a 55-day training program at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stow.

The three firefighters will stay at firehouses in the Stow area to avoid the expense of hotel accommodations, but must be reimbursed for tolls and meals. Training at the academy is offered at no cost to the town.

Fire Chief David Pisano said the slots at the fire academy had been reserved nearly two years ago. But due to a backlog, they did not become available sooner.

In a memo to the Mayor, Pisano said he had not included the funding in his budget request because it was not known when the slots would be open.

"This is great opportunity for these firefighters which I believe establishes an essential base for a career firefighter," Pisano said.

The total cost will be \$4,950 for meals and \$50 in tolls. The Fire Department's training account will contribute \$1,000 toward the cost.

## Senator Melconian Plans Office Hours At Agawam Library For Wednesday, Feb. 21st

Senator Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced that she will hold open office hours at the Agawam Public Library, located at 750 Cooper Street, from 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21st.

Everybody is welcome to come and speak with Senator Melconian during these open office hours to discuss any issues of concern, ask questions,

or just drop in to say hello and meet the Senator.

Anyone wishing to meet with Senator Melconian who cannot attend her open office hours on the aforementioned date is invited to call 786-6033 to schedule an appointment at her District Office, 375 Walnut Street Extension, Agawam, which serves the Hampden District daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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Glenn McCarthy and Rosemary Morin  
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## Keenan Receives Kudos For Pushing Local Aid

### To The Editor:

On behalf of cities and towns across the state, the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) wants to thank Representative Daniel F. Keenan for co-sponsoring the Early Resolution on Local Aid.

The early passage of this legislative resolution is important to communities as they prepare their budgets for the next fiscal year. With the demands on cash-strapped municipal budgets, it will be enormously difficult for town meetings and city councils to make meaningful budget decisions without local aid figures.

The local aid resolution would set the base level of local aid for cities and towns, returning \$41.6 million in new lottery aid and \$207 million in new education funds, as promised by the legislature last year.

Municipalities will now know how much local aid they will receive, usually distributed through the so-called Cherry Sheets, until the Local Aid Resolution is enacted. Because communities need these local aid increases in order to balance their budget and provide basic services to their residents, the adoption of this resolution is in the best interests of the taxpayers in Rep. Keenan's district.

The MMA extends its appreciation to Rep. Keenan for supporting and co-sponsoring the Early Local Aid Resolution and for making an early commitment on the local aid increases and urges the legislature to adopt the measure as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,  
Geoffrey C. Beckwith  
Executive Director  
Massachusetts Municipal Association

## Agawam School System Is Worthy Of Some Praise

### To The Editor:

As I read the letter in the February 1st edition of *The Agawam Advertiser News* about our school system and its many problems, I was outraged both at our elected officials and the school department for letting things get so out of control. I know the people writing those letters are trying to right a serious wrong (for all of our children and I commend their courage and initiative), but I would like to remind these people as well as the rest of the town that our school system has some wonderful teachers, parent organizations, and kids.

The Early Childhood Center was accredited on its first try—a feather in the cap of the Agawam school system. Clark School started a student council which was able to raise over \$200 in popcorn sales to purchase a bike rack and an outside trash can (again a credit to the kids in the school system), but where do you think they got their support and guidance? From the dedicated teachers in the "system."

Granger School has "DEAR," Drop Everything And Read. Every Friday, everyone at Granger—from Mrs. Lewis, the students, and the

teachers, right down to "Bob" and the cafeteria workers—spends 15 minutes reading. It may not seem like a lot of time, but to a child who may not be read to at home or have "time" to read, it's heaven.

Let's not forget the High School. Even with all of their "problems," they too have offered "spirit" to the town in the way of a mascot.

I can guarantee all of you that if you took five minutes, you could think of at least one positive thing to say about our schools. I'm not saying to forget about the problems because they do need to be addressed and corrected, and parents (as well as grandparents and relatives) need to become involved in the education of the children.

But, please don't let all the wonderful programs and people that are involved in our school system be lost in a sea of negativity.

Carol Ruehl, parent  
Agawam

## Beautification Comm. Thanks Councilors For Their Support

### To The Editor:

The Agawam Beautification Committee wishes to thank Councilors Blitzas, Langone, Perry, Quatrone, Servis, Simpson, Skolnick, Suffriti, and Thompson for their support of the Tree Belt Ordinance Amendment (TOR 95-10) at its first reading on February 5, 1996.

In a partial response to some of the good questions raised during your deliberations of this proposed treebelt ordinance amendment, we offer the following for your consideration of you all prior to the second reading:

1. The basic intent is to protect the natural beauty of our community and the 99.9 percent of our citizens who now automatically look after the tree belt as a natural extension of their property.

2. We are aware of not one single instance where a problem has ever existed with a senior citizen. On the contrary, senior citizens serve as role models for the community in the care of their property and tree belt. Should any senior experience a problem in the future, we would want it brought to our attention so we could assist them or find assistance for them.

3. In 1995 Agawam was one of only 13 communities to be awarded a \$5,000 Urban Forest Planning Grant through the Mass. Dept. of Environmental Management. Part of the support of our application included a statement to petition the Town Council for the adoption of an ordinance similar to that now under review. If this ordinance is adopted, we will be in conformity with other communities in the Commonwealth and will better qualify for additional larger grants to be applied for next year.

4. The ordinance will not be unenforceable or meaningless. Presently we have no lever in dealing with absentee property owners and renters. We anticipate that most complaints will first be brought to our attention and quickly resolved by a friendly call or visit. Only rarely do we anticipate the need of referral to the Building Inspector or Health Department.

5. The language of the proposed amendment is quite specific to sidewalks and "tree belts" and clearly excludes agricultural properties and wooded areas. It is our understanding that this interpretation is that of the many other communities of the Commonwealth who have had such ordinances for many years and after which ours is modeled.

6. The suggestion for the use of "community service"-type volunteers is a good one and we propose it be pursued. There are many "project" type requirements in our parks and public lands that could benefit. We do not, however, feel this to be the solution to our tree belt concerns. The tree belts require weekly attention in the warm weather and extend to most every main and side street in town.

We know you are unanimous in the support of means to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of our community and are appreciative of your efforts.

Respectfully,  
AGAWAM BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
Alberta Abbey, George Blitzas (Council Member),  
Carolyn Carrier, Zoafila Demko (Chairperson),  
Helen Lawrenchuk, John R. Zebryk,  
and Sasha Zebryk

## The Good, The Bad, The Ugly On Power Plant Debate

### To The Editor:

The ongoing saga known as the Berkshire Power Project could be characterized as the good, the bad, and the ugly.

The good being:

1. The cash offered seems large but is actually only half the going rate for a 250 megawatt plant.
2. The jobs offered are many at first but few after the plant is built.
3. Apathy has turned to concern.

The bad being:

1. The plant would violate every human sense. It would look bad, smell bad, sound bad, feel bad, and taste bad.
2. It would consume our natural resources, strain our infrastructures, and offer us no electricity in return.
3. It would invite urban sprawl by opening Agawam to 170-foot structures.

The ugly being:

1. Elected officials deserted a large segment of our population.
2. The government has been distracted from urgent matters like education.
3. When the plant dies after 20 years, it may leave its ugly carcass for us to deal with.
4. The two concern groups that formed may fight each other until we all lose.

The Concerned Citizens of Agawam is concerned about their health and safety, period.

The Concerned Taxpayers of Agawam is concerned about their pocketbooks, period.

My personal feeling is that health and safety are more important.

Don Hazen  
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS -  
continued to Page 5...

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Tuesday, February 20th  
Agawam Junior Women's Club's  
Meeting & Membership Bingo Night  
At Captain Charles Leonard House  
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 22nd  
"Women's Self Defense Clinic"  
At Fitness First, Feeding Hills  
6:15 to 7:30 p.m.  
\$3 per person; preregistration  
required by calling 786-1460

Saturday, February 24th  
"Broken Spoke" Country Western Dance  
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Dance Instruction  
9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Dance  
Springfield Turnverein,  
176 Garden Street, Agawam  
(sponsored by the Agawam  
Junior Women's Club)

Monday, February 26th  
Meeting of Agawam/Feeding Hills  
chapter of AARP with guest speaker  
Dr. Tami Nelson, Chiropractic Physician  
At Agawam Senior Center  
1:00 p.m.  
Call 786-1866 for further information



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## LETTERS - from Page 4...

## The Bizarre, Shifting Politics Of Power Plant Issue

### To The Editor:

The truly bizarre, shifting politics of the Berkshire Power debate is now so convoluted that we truly need a road map to the stakes involved, and tactics employed. I will try to provide one:

1). Some seem under the mistaken impression that the Concerned Agawam Taxpayers represent a grass-roots movement to hold down residential taxes and welcome responsible industrial development.

In fact, the CAT remains a paid agent for Berkshire Power's designs, a makeshift lobbying firm operating on the behalf of only that one enterprise to water down our zoning laws or "reform" the ZBA to such extent that any subversion of our zoning laws through special permits is inevitably given approval by the ZBA.

2). Some seem under the mistaken impression that Mr. Raymond Gendron's courageous decision was based on something other than the facts, and was rendered on the behalf of the CCBA. The truth is that the decision was Mr. Gendron's, and Mr. Gendron's alone, in an effort to prevent our zoning laws from becoming irrelevant.

It is no less a moral atrocity to libel Mr. Gendron than it was to libel Messrs. Kasparian and Russo. Some people have no shame at all.

3). Based on the misconception that "special interests" have clout with the ZBA, some efforts are being made to "revise" our zoning laws through the back door, the crippling of the ZBA. Given that our zoning laws are the most visible landmark of our city's values, we need to recognize any such efforts or polemics as inspired or paid for by Berkshire Power to bar townsfolk from influence in this arena. This is far less an assault on the ZBA than democracy.

4). Not satisfied with assaulting city values through lawsuits, or "reform" of the ZBA, Berkshire Power plans an appeal to state agencies in the pocket of eastern communities. We must understand any such efforts as attempts to lose our city to wasteful energy markets whose lack of environmental concerns has led them to muscle state agencies into shoving superfluous utilities down our throats.

This battle has not taken proportions much

larger than the power plant itself, but illuminates our vulnerability to the designs of eastern communities. Our legislators need to hear from us as we demand from them respect for the concept of "home rule." All laws removing influence over development from those most affected by such development are laws that need repeal.

5). Continual efforts to lose our community to thirsty, wasteful energy markets and those who would indulge their wasteful habits now threaten to raise their hideous heads in our schools.

While I would hardly contest the necessity for civics lessons, I can only wonder to what extent any lessons regarding public administration and zoning laws may degrade into propaganda for the "responsible" industrial development the CAT seems to have in mind.

I trust that I have helped to clarify matters and will further elaborate next week.

Sincerely,  
Owen R. Broadhurst  
Agawam

## Resident Responds To Letter From AHS Principal

### To The Editor:

I feel I have to respond to Mr. Zabielski's letter in the February 8th issue of the Advertiser. It seems he has more faith in the High School than myself and many of the parents I have talked with over the years.

I started dealing with the H.S. around 1985 when my sister went there. It seems most of the problems are still there and have only gotten worse! One would think, after all these years, these situations would have been taken care of. But, why now, are steps being taken to curb violence, drug abuse, and academic complacency? I ask, what took so long? Did we run out of rugs to sweep these issues under?

When it came time to decide what high school to send our son to, we chose CATHEDRAL. After two years there, the problems in Agawam STICK OUT EVEN MORE! My son's neighborhood friends have talked about which teachers give no homework, assign no reports, watch videos, etc., etc.

My son wishes he was that LUCKY. Fortunately for him, he understands how important a quality education is to getting anywhere in life and he's up to the challenge. Where's the challenge in

### Agawam High?

In the hallways maybe, passing from class to class in supersonic time or trying to find a place to sit and eat in the cafeteria. But, in the classroom, unlikely. I am sure there are good teachers in the High School, but it's apparent, from what I hear, most are just there collecting a paycheck and counting the days 'til retirement.

More and more people are looking to send their children out of town for their high school years. I hope that is not the case when my two younger children are ready to enter the ninth grade. We, as a town, must DEMAND the best for our children. We must fight for higher standards academically for all of our students.

We need a principal and a superintendent that feel the same. Just as we say "zero tolerance" to gangs, drugs, guns, and physical abuse, we, too, should say ZERO TOLERANCE to low test grades and poor academic performance by teachers and students as well!

Lastly, let me say that we need more people like Sue Dempsey, Debra Curtis, and the handful of others who are willing to fight for our children. I will do whatever I can to help, will you?

Sue Roberts  
41 Pineview Circle  
Agawam

## DPW Applauded But Snow Causing Neighborhood Hazard

### To The Editor:

I regularly applaud all of our dedicated DPW employees in our town, especially during the winter months. These people could well spend the greatest part of a 24-hour period dealing with us (the driving and walking public), severely cold temperatures, and certainly the snow, trying to insure our safety while driving and/or walking.

In light of this, I cannot understand how one of our citizens, whose home is located close to Springfield and Arnold Streets, can consistently justify disposing of their snow directly across from their driveway, creating, in my opinion, a driving hazard on an already narrow street.

Jack Graveline  
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

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## LETTERS - from Page 5...

## Residents Deserve Credit For Criticizing School System

## To The Editor:

Eileen Ratkiewicz, Susan M. Dempsey, Linda Gloster, and Debra Curtis, as well as many others working on one of the most crucial problems in Agawam, credibility of our school system, are admirable and courageous individuals.

Thirty-six years ago when I moved to Agawam, the situation was similar but not quite as pronounced.

As my children grew, I took the easy way out and either looked the other way or sent them to private schools, always hoping someone would "take care of this sadly lacking school system." Elementary grades had stimulating, dedicated teachers who made and awakened the joy at learning in our young children.

The last four years of public education had a smattering of dedicated teachers but they were lost among those who were now tenured and simply "going to work."

I have regretted not becoming involved in correcting what was obviously wrong so often since that time.

I now have grandchildren in other communities who are doing so well in their schools which I have visited on several occasions. Should they relocate to this area, my concerns about their education are utmost in my mind.

Therefore, my heartfelt thanks, gratitude, and wishes for successful negotiations go out to this motivated group.

Sincerely,  
D.G. Marquis  
Feeding Hills

## Keenan Co-Sponsors Local Aid Resolution To Help Communities

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has co-sponsored the fiscal year 1997 Local Aid Resolution, which is necessary for the state's Department of Revenue to issue timely "Cherry Sheets" to cities, towns, and school districts with notification of state and lottery distribution amounts that can be used to prepare local budgets for the upcoming fiscal year.

"This resolution is aimed at providing communities across the Commonwealth with timely figures to ensure an orderly approach to the local budgetary process," stated Rep. Keenan. "This information will allow local officials and citizens to make informed decisions on local spending and tax issues."

The passage of this resolution will enable the state to notify municipalities of the minimum increase in local aid that they can expect, including lottery aid and Chapter 70 funds for the schools. Because municipalities must set their budgets by July 1st, late Cherry Sheet figures create difficulties for cities and towns experiencing fiscal hardship or struggling to meet the requirements of the new school finance law.

Check our classified

## IRS Has Made Filing Tax Returns Easier

Although the Internal Revenue Service can't promise to make you like *paying* your taxes, it can make *filing* them easier.

"We've just finished mailing tax packages to Massachusetts residents, and while the forms look much the same as last year, we are offering some new filing features," said Francine Crowley, IRS District Director.

The IRS announced in November that they had expanded the telephone filing option, TeleFile, to many 1040EZ filers nationwide, as well as clearing the way for wider use of computers for filing federal tax returns. And for those taxpayers choosing to file paper returns, this will be the first year that the IRS has offered direct deposit of refunds to bank accounts.

"People who are comfortable doing things the old way can, but we hope that many will at least try some of our new options by April 16th," remarked Crowley. Those taxpayers filing returns through the Andover, Massachusetts processing center are given an additional day to file, as Monday, April 15, 1996 falls on the Patriots' Day state holiday.

## Electronic Filing

Over the past 10 years, acceptance of electronic filing has steadily increased. Last year, over 154,000 Massachusetts residents put away their pencils and reached for computer keyboards.

Preparers and transmission services accepted by the IRS are able to send tax return data directly from computers to IRS processing centers. Electronic filing allows people who owe taxes to file when they're ready, then send the payment by April 16th.

Those who get refunds can have them directly deposited into their bank accounts.

## 1040PC

Many tax preparation software programs come with a print option called 1040PC that prints out an answer sheet of the return that is then mailed to the IRS. Unlike traditional forms that may have blank lines, the 1040PC program prints only the lines that have entries.

The result is a three-column list that fits on one or two pages. The condensed format makes it easier for IRS staff to identify and transcribe the data. As a result, 1040PC returns are input faster and with fewer errors.

## TeleFile

Certain people will be able to use IRS's TeleFile system. This lets some people with simple tax returns file by phone. They call a toll-free number using a Touch-Tone phone and enter total wages, interest, tax withheld, and other information from the Telefile worksheet.

IRS computers figure adjusted gross income and any refund or tax owed while the person is on the phone. Those Massachusetts residents who are eligible will get a TeleFile tax booklet in the mail.

"Whether people choose the traditional way to file or one of the alternatives, they should always double check their return. Keep in mind that using correct social security numbers prevents processing delays, and a complete return address and enough postage will help make sure a mailed return gets to the IRS on time," noted Crowley.

## Melconian Announces State Expansion Of Environment Trust

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) and Representative Stephen Kulik (D-Worthington) announce the expansion of the Massachusetts Environmental Trust Fund to benefit the western region of the state. Using the Open Space Bond Bill as a vehicle, Senator Melconian and Representative Kulik changed the law to open the Trust Fund to all residents of the state.

The Environmental Trust will grant funds to projects to improve and protect the quality of all the waterways in Massachusetts including the Chicopee, Connecticut, Deerfield, Millers, and Westfield Rivers. The projects expect to increase public understanding and involvement in activities which promote the waters as living resources, recreation, and public treasures for present and future citizens of the Commonwealth.

Prior to the legislative changes initiated by Senator Melconian and Representative Kulik, the Environmental Trust Fund, which is funded by fees associated with the special environmental whale license plates, was limited to supporting only projects located in Eastern Massachusetts.

"Once again, Western Massachusetts was being discriminated against by the interests of the Eastern part of our state. Many of our residents pay the annual fee for the whale license plates but are not the beneficiaries of river clean-up projects," said Melconian.

Other project grants may be made to qualifying not-for-profit organizations, community associations, or schools. The legislation passed also included a provision which allows two residents of Western Massachusetts membership on the board.

"This achievement is a victory for many citizens, sportsmen, and environmental activists who spoke out against the unfairness of excluding Western Massachusetts from a fund that benefits our environment," said Representative Kulik.

Melconian's and Kulik's efforts to win passage of this law drew support from many environmental organizations. Tom Miner, Executive Director of the Connecticut River Watershed, said, "We are thrilled by the expansion of the Environmental Trust Funds to include Western Massachusetts. This provides local groups an opportunity to participate in the conservation of our natural heritage. We are extremely grateful to both legislators who included this provision in the Open Space Bond Bill and to Representative Kulik, who has worked on this issue for the past two years."

**OUR DEADLINE is every Tuesday at noon but we appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday.**

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## Town Council Agenda For Feb. 20th Meeting

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 2/5/96
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances
  - (a) Resolutions
    1. TR-96-3-Resolution Authorizing the Posting of the Warrant for the Presidential Preference Primary Election of March 5, 1996 by the Board of Registrars (Mayor).
7. Report of Council Committees
8. Elections
  - (a)
    1. TE-96-6-Election of an alternate member of the Board of Appeals to a term expiring January 1, 1999 (Tabled on 1/16/96).
9. Public Hearings
  - None.
10. Old Business
  - (a)
    1. TOR-95-10-An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Town of Agawam, Ch. 155, Art. I, Section 155-15 and Ch. 180, Art. I, Sec. 180-2 (Coun. Bitzas)(2nd Reading).
    2. TO-96-5-Transfer of \$104,945.00 from Salary Reserve (11212-57350) to Departmental Accounts -Negotiations (Mayor).
    3. TO-96-6-Transfer of \$4,000 from Reserve Fund (11212-57300) to Fire-Training & Education (122202-52180)(Mayor).

**Please remember  
that Jack Devine  
needs at least 48  
hours notice to  
cover your event.  
Call 789-0053.**

## Robert A. Magovern Seeks Position On GOP State Committee

Robert A. Magovern of 144 Birch Hill Road, Agawam, has announced his candidacy for the Republican State Comm. for the Hampden Senatorial District. This district includes Agawam, Chicopee (Wards 2, 4, and 5), and Springfield (Wards 1, 4, 5, and 6), and West Springfield.

Magovern said that, "Although it is an important election, very few people even know that it is happening." The state committee members elected in this election will be your local representatives to the state committee. It is the state committee's responsibility to help direct the platform for the Massachusetts Republican Party.

Magovern is a native of Agawam, graduating from Agawam High School. He went on to Boston University, where he earned a degree in business administration. Magovern lived in Westport, CT for several years while working for the Magovern Co., Inc. He was active in politics while living in Westport and ran as a selectmen candidate for Westport.

Magovern returned to the area and lived in Longmeadow. For many years, he was active in Longmeadow civic and political activities. When asked about his community activities, he commented, "I have always felt that you should be active in the town where you live. You should try to do what you can to help where your talents can contribute the most."

While in Longmeadow, Magovern was active in the Longmeadow Historical Society and was one of the founders of the annual Longmeadow Days celebration. He also served as chair of the Longmeadow Republican Town Committee. When asked about his activities, he said, "I am very proud to have been part of the team that put together Longmeadow's bicentennial. We sponsored programs for almost a full year and involved hundreds of committee workers. We gave enjoyment and history lessons to thousands of town and area residents." Magovern served as chair of the Bicentennial Commission.

When asked about what got him started in politics, he said, "I can remember as a youth going from door-to-door in Agawam putting door hangers on homes for candidates for election. I



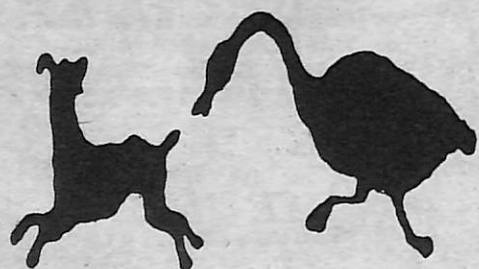
ROBERT A. MAGOVERN

am very happy to be back in Agawam to help do my part."

On his views of the future of Agawam, Magovern commented, "I have been interested in the founding history of our area from the 17th century up to the present. We have what we have today because somebody did his or her part in the past to insure our present. If we are going to leave our children a better future, we have to do our part today." At the present time, Magovern is serving on the Agawam Conservation Commission.

Magovern has two children and is president of Neighbor to Neighbor of America, Inc., a new resident welcoming service that welcomes families into Connecticut and Western Massachusetts.

The election will be held on March 5th, at the same time as the Presidential primary. When you vote for your choice for President, you use a Republican or Democrat ballot. On your ballot, along with your Presidential candidate are your choices for state and local committee members. If you are an Independent, you may choose a primary ballot of either party and vote for the state and local candidates of your choice. Magovern said, "It is important to vote in this election."



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The Staff from The Pond House

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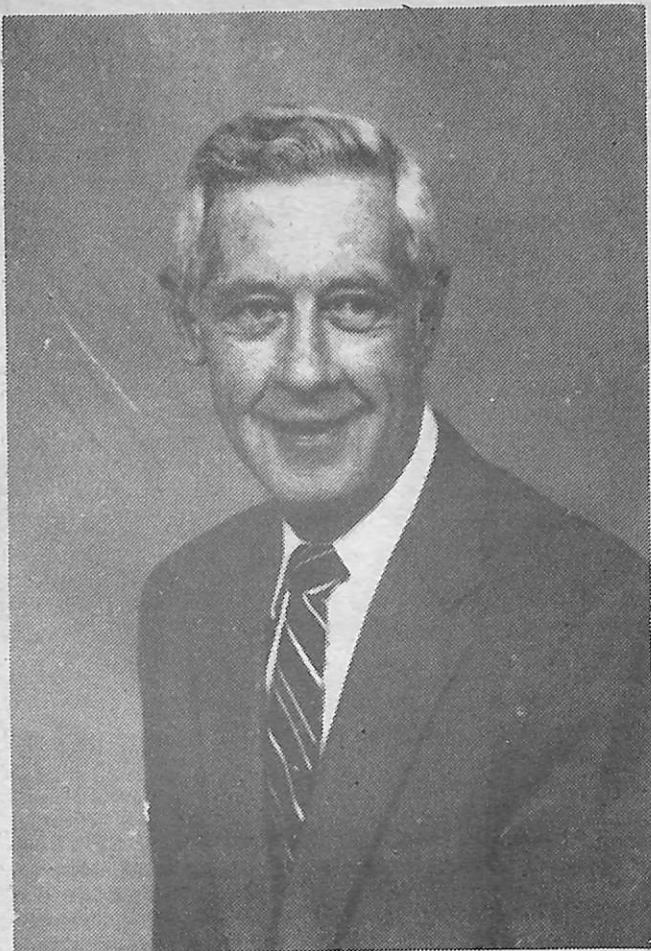
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# Agawam Obituaries



## Richard S. Brindle, 73, Civic Leader & Councilor

Richard S. Brindle, 73, of 48 Barney Street, Agawam, a former town councilor, registrar, and zoner, died Tuesday, February 13th, at home.

He was a supervisor at Carando Meats of Springfield for 10 years, and retired in 1986. He had worked for Armour & Co. there for 20 years.

He served two terms on the Town Council, including a term as president. He also served on the Board of Registrars, and chaired the Zoning Review Committee.

He sat on the Junior High building committee, the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee, and the Bondi's Island Task Force.

He was a former chairman of the Republican Town Committee, and a town meeting member.

He was a trustee and chairman of the board at the former Monson State Hospital, a treasurer and past president of the Captain Charles Leonard House, and belonged to the Lions Club and the Friends of the Senior Center.

Born and schooled in Westerly, Rhode Island, he attended Syracuse University, and was graduated from Colgate University in 1948.

He lived in Agawam from 1952.

He and his family were active in the Agawam Chapter of American Intercultural Programs (AFS). The Brindles hosted a girl from Japan in the late 1970's and in 1992 hosted the first visiting teacher sponsored by Agawam AFS at Agawam High School (Argentina). The Brindles received the Agawam AFS "Lifetime Member Award" in March 1995.

He attended the Agawam Congregational Church, and was a deacon, moderator, trustee, and treasurer. He also served on the church building and finance committees, and was president of the Merrywed Club.

He was a Cub Scout and Boy Scout Leader, and a Little League baseball manager-coach. He also coached the Church Basketball League, and was honored as coach of the year.

He was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II, and served with the 4th Marine Division in the Pacific theater. He was in the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He leaves his wife, the former Marion Graham; two sons, Richard S. of Castle Rock, Colorado, and G. Scott of Longmeadow; three daughters, Jean G. Brindle of Feeding Hills, Susan F. Brindle of Monson, and Elsie A. Mallory of Agawam; a brother, Roger of Winter Park, Florida; two sisters, Elsie Brown of Deerfield, New Hampshire, and Helen Lathrop of Glastonbury, Connecticut; and seven grandchildren.

A memorial service was scheduled for noon-time on Thursday, February 15th, in the church, with a private burial in Agawam Center Cemetery. Curran-Jones Funeral Home was in charge.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam 01001, or the church memorial fund at 745 Main Street, Agawam 01001.

## Lillias M. Connery

Lillias M. (Winn) Connery, 86, of 97 Alderman Street, Springfield, died January 30th at home.

She was a retired teacher's aide and worked at the White Street School in Springfield. She had been a baker at Cathedral High School.

Born in Ware, she lived most of her life in Springfield and worshipped at Holy Name Church. She was a foster-mother for the Child and Family Service and cared for about 40 babies during 15 years.

Her husband, Thomas H. Connery, died in 1975.

She leaves three sons, Brian T. of Ludlow, Thomas R. of Feeding Hills, and Richard F. of Springfield; a sister, Stella Blaschik of Moodus, Connecticut; eight grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

The funeral was at Hafey Springfield Funeral Chapels and in the church, with burial in Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Holy Name Church, 323 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108; the Ronald McDonald House, 34 Chapin Terrace, Springfield, MA 01107; or any other charity.

## Elsie E. Cosenzi

Elsie E. (Guidi) Cosenzi, 79, formerly of 95 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, died at home.

She was a 10-year employee of the former Rainbow Coat Co. She worked previously for Johnson's Bookstore and the Woolworth Department Store, both in Springfield.

Born in Franklin, N.J., she lived in Springfield before moving to Feeding Hills 25 years ago.

She was a communicant of the Sacred Heart Church.

Her husband, Thomas A. Cosenzi, died in 1987.

She leaves four sons, Thomas A. of Longmeadow, Daniel N. of Springfield, Primo J. of Agawam, and Anthony J. of South Hadley; two daughters, Rose M. Pepper of Feeding Hills, and Linda Brown of Palm Coast, Fla.; a brother, Secundo of Springfield; 16 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial Funeral Home and the church, with burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish Nursing Home, 770 Converse Street, Longmeadow, MA 01106.

## Walter A. Balboni, 76 Political & Civic Leader

Walter A. Balboni, 76, of 188 Walnut Street, Agawam, a Springfield business owner and local civic leader, died Wednesday, February 7th, in a local nursing home.

He was the founder of the State Dental Laboratory in Springfield, and owned and operated it for 40 years. He worked later in sales for the laboratory.

He was a town constable for three years, and the former chairman of the Whiting Street Board, a charitable organization. He was an auxiliary policeman for 20 years.

He was chairman of the town's Personnel Board, and codified all town employee positions for the first time.

He was a former chairman of the Finance Committee and the Housing Authority. He helped to secure funding for the first elderly complex in Massachusetts, Country View Estates in Feeding Hills.

He served eight terms (25 years) on the School Committee, and helped to introduce computers to the schools, and construction projects.

He was on the Junior High School Building Committee, and the swimming pool was named in his honor.

He also initiated a bridging program with area colleges and the Lower Pioneer Valley Education Collaborative. He was the only school board member here to be appointed a life member of the state Association of School Committees.

He served two terms on the Town Council, and was a member of the Democratic Town Committee. He served 10 terms as a town meeting member.

Born in Springfield, he lived in West Springfield, and was a graduate of West Springfield High School.

He served in the Navy in World War II, and was a chief pharmacist's mate with the Pacific Fleet.

He moved to Agawam in 1945, and was a communicant and lector of St. Anthony of Padua Church.

He was in the UNICO Club and the Hole-In-One Club.

His wife, the former Rose DeMaria, died in 1989.

He leaves a son, John A. of Agawam, and a sister, Frances Manchino of West Springfield.

His daughter, Linda Balboni, died in 1953.

The funeral was held on Saturday, February 10th, at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home in West Springfield, and the church, with burial at St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pioneer Valley Hospice, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102-9058.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 9...

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**For Republican State Committee:**  
**The Sensible Choice**  
**Phyllis J. Casey**



Paid Political Ad

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Sunday, 3 PM - 8 PM



## OBITUARIES - from Page 8...

**Jennie M. Montagna**

Jennie M. Montagna, 85, of 11 Highland Avenue, died Sunday in an Agawam nursing home.

She was an inspector at the former American Bosch in Springfield for 45 years. She retired in 1973. Born here, she lived in town most of her life, and was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church.

She belonged to the Senior Center and the Golden Agers. She leaves a brother, Raymond J. of Springfield; three sisters, Rose D. Ronchi and Irene V. Montagna of Agawam, and Rene E. Verbeck of Titusville, Florida, and nieces and nephews.

The funeral was on Wednesday morning at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home in West Springfield, and in the church, with burial at St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church at 108 Bridge Street, Agawam, 01001.

**Thomas L. Beaudoin**

Thomas L. Beaudoin, 49, of 643 Suffield Street, Agawam, a 15-year electron-beam welder for Hamilton Standard Division of United Technologies Corp. in Windsor Locks, CT, died at home.

He worked previously for Smith & Wesson Corp. and EBTEC Corp. in Agawam.

Born and schooled in Chicopee, he was a graduate of Chicopee High School, and received an associate degree from Springfield Technical Community College.

He was a member of the Westfield Sportsmen's Club and the Crankers Antique Car Club.

He leaves his wife, the former Edrie Oney; a daughter, Wendy Beaudoin of Malone, N.Y.; two stepsons, Michael and Brian Kelley of Flomaton, Ala.; a stepdaughter, Lori Saffer of Agawam; a brother, Robert J. of Chicopee; and a grandson.

A memorial service was conducted at Colonial Funeral Home, with burial at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 383 Dwight Street, Holyoke, MA 01040.

**Eugene C. Baj**

Eugene C. Baj, 45, of 35 Harvey Johnson Drive, a chef at B'Shara's Restaurant in West Springfield, died Sunday in Springfield's Baystate Medical Center.

Previously, he worked at the former Mountain Laurel Restaurant in Enfield for 16 years. Born in Springfield, he lived here for most of his life and graduated from Agawam High School in 1968. He was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church and was a former Eagle Scout.

He leaves his parents, Robert & Norma (Montagna) Baj of Agawam; a brother, Albert L. of Longmeadow; and two sisters, Susan M. Stapleton of Windsor, Connecticut, and Judith J. Davis of Agawam.

The funeral was on Wednesday morning at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the church, 108 Bridge Street, Agawam, 01001, or to Stigmatine Charter 99 Scholarship Fund, Box 3843, Springfield, 01101.

## Boy Scout Troop 75 At Sacred Heart Helping With Elderly Program

Boy Scout Troop 75 at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills will give a helping hand on Saturday, February 17th to Agawam's S.A.L.T. (Senior and Law Enforcement Together) Program, a partnership between seniors and law enforcement under the direction of Sergeant Steve Draghetti.

The scouts will distribute surveys to seniors in the area. These surveys will help identify areas of concern for the older members of our local community in order to find meaningful solutions. The program also offers seniors an active voice into ways to enhance the quality of their lives.

Once surveys are gathered, a committee comprised of representatives from A.A.R.P., the Golden Agers, senior housing developments, Hampden County Sheriff's Department, Council on Aging, the Agawam Housing Authority, and the Agawam Police Department will review the results and develop these solutions to problems identified in the surveys in cooperation with seniors from throughout the area.

The Boy Scouts will play an important role in reaching seniors who live independently, but who are in rental units and not town managed senior housing developments. Senior homeowners were previously sent surveys with their recent real estate tax bills.

Among those sites to be visited are: William Pynchon, River Vista Apartments, Coachlight Apartments, Elizabeth Manor, Heritage Village, Pheasant Hill, and Shibley Court. Other complexes may be added.

"We are grateful to the Boy Scouts of Troop 75 for taking on this critical project because we want to have the input of all seniors. We know there are problems in the areas of transportation and home security. It is most important for us to know if and how the needs of our seniors have changed and how we can best meet those needs. Without the help of these young scouts, we would be hard-pressed to attain these goals," noted Draghetti in a recent interview.

Troop Scoutmaster Hugh McBride said, "The boys are excited about the opportunity to perform a significant task with this community partnership. As adults in the scouting movement, we know that this will also teach the boys important lessons about caring for other generations and working together as a community."

Anyone desiring more information about the S.A.L.T. surveys should contact Sergeant Draghetti at 786-4767, or Oliver Muldrew, chairman of the S.A.L.T. Program, c/o the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400.

## Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

### Taking "The Love Test"

It only takes a minute to do "the love test" for your family ... by testing the batteries in your smoke detector!

Approximately two-thirds of American homes have installed smoke detectors, but one-third of those smoke detectors don't work. The reason—a dead or missing battery.

Each year in the United States, more than 500,000 home fires occur, resulting in 6,000

deaths and 130,000 serious injuries. Many of these tragedies could be avoided with properly installed and maintained smoke detectors.

You should take "the love test" at least once a month and replace the batteries on an annual basis. For more information on installing and maintaining smoke detectors, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

## Town Democrats Plan March 2nd Caucus

The Agawam Democratic Committee will hold a caucus on Saturday, March 2, 1996 at 2:00 p.m. in the community room at the Police Station on Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Delegates will be elected to attend the Massachusetts Democratic Convention at Worcester on June 1, 1996.

You must be a registered Democrat as of February 14, 1996 to run. Democrats that wish to run must be in attendance promptly at 2:00 p.m.

## Counseling Center Has Classes For GED Tests

Wish you hadn't dropped out of school? Are you kicking yourself for not finishing high school? You could do it NOW! Make 1996 your year of opportunities.

If you are searching for a new job, hoping for a job change, or perhaps want to go on to some type of higher education, a GED can help. Most employers treat high school graduates and those with a GED (General Equivalency Diploma) the same. A GED can be your ticket to a higher education degree, a better job, and an increased sense of self-worth.

The Agawam Counseling Center offers classes for GED test preparation and pre-testing for the GED in a safe, confidential, stress-free environment. Classes begin every Tuesday.

Call the Center now and ask to speak with our GED coordinator, Ruth Roberts, at 786-6410.

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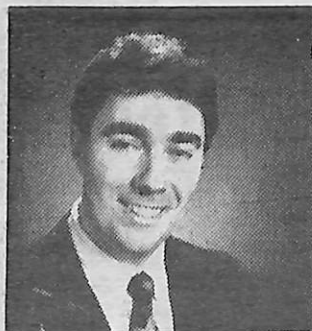
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## View From The State House

by State Rep.  
Daniel F. Keenan

### Upcoming Budget Challenges (Part I)

As formulation and debate of the Fiscal Year 1997 State Budget begins, the Massachusetts General Court will face the challenge being experienced by legislatures throughout the nation: how to deliver more and better public services with fewer dollars. A recent report by the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation has outlined the changes in spending and revenues since 1989, and these figures help to underscore the difficult choices that lie ahead.

Nevertheless, the Governor and the Legislature are to be commended for holding spending to no more than annual revenues for the last four years. From 1992 to 1995, state costs have been less than current year income, and year-end balances have grown with annual increases in the state's stabilization fund, a reserve fund which, in effect, maintains the state's fiscal stability. In addition, unanticipated supplemental budgets have declined over this same period, an average of more than \$400 million in unspent authorizations have been returned to the state's treasury.

In spite of these positive actions to assure the state's fiscal health, the state has experienced slower economic and tax growth. Projections indicate that revenue growth is expected to decline in 1996 with the anticipated revenue increase in 1996 projected to be less than half that recorded for FY 1994. In the meantime, demands for spending are increasing with two top priorities this year: education reform and state aid to the cities and towns. According to the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, continuing the commitment to these two areas may consume as much as two-thirds of all new revenues.

State spending has increased 25 percent from 1992 to 1996 as spending priorities have shifted in favor of children's services. As of 1996, \$800 million more in aid has been distributed to local school districts, and ed reform has mandated four more years of \$200 million annual increases. In terms of higher education, the Commonwealth has invested \$200 million more than in 1992. Today, spending for juvenile justice is \$100 million higher than in 1992. The Commonwealth's overall investment in children has increased from 18 percent of the budget in 1992 to 21 percent today.

Federal reimbursements to Massachusetts accounted for \$3 billion out of \$16.4 billion in state budget revenues in FY 1995. A total of \$2.3 billion was allocated for Medicaid reimbursements and \$600 million for welfare programs, and both these reimbursements covered 50 percent of expenditures for these programs. Additionally, the Commonwealth received \$1.5 billion in grants from Washington to supplement primary and secondary education, child nutrition, child welfare, social services, community health care, mental health, employment and job training, public housing assistance, and environmental protection. Because grants are deemed non-budgetary funds, they are not part of the state's operating budget.

#### MEDICAID

One key element of the state's fiscal recovery has been the hefty increase in federal reimbursements for Medicaid. Aggressive efforts by state officials to shift the state costs to the federal government have resulted in an annual increase of \$300 million for state programs. These reimbursements cover free care provided by the state's hospitals, for community care of the mentally ill, and new funding for mental health services by shifting care from state institutions to community hospitals.

Medicaid, which provides health and long-term care to poor families, the disabled, and the elderly, once increased at an annual rate of 17 percent, but over the last three years has grown less than five percent per year. This is reflected by the fact that the welfare caseload has declined more than 20 percent over the last two years. Growth is

estimated at 2.6 percent in 1996, and the sharp reduction in the growth of spending is also the result of new state policies to contain costs and the slower rate of medical inflation.

The Commonwealth has initiated several policies which have transformed Medicaid spending and the delivery of medical services. First, to lower rates of reimbursement to providers Medicaid shifted from a retrospective rate to a prospective rate setting in 1992. Under the old system, providers were reimbursed on the basis of their costs. Today, reimbursement rates are set in advance and providers must live within these limits regardless of their costs. This major change has eliminated large, unpredictable rate adjustments.

The state has shifted to managed care for many of its Medicaid recipients. In fact, Massachusetts utilizes managed care more than any other state to curb Medicaid spending. Today, 355,000 of its 685,000 recipients are either enrolled in HMO's or with primary care providers who act as gatekeepers to prevent unnecessary use of emergency rooms and specialty care. Managed care enrolls about 95 percent of the eligible reci-

ipients who are not elderly, institutionalized, or have another health insurer, as compared to 10 percent annually.

Since 1992, Medicaid has been enrolling about 100,000 recipients in federal Medicare programs each year so that the state pays only for the services not covered by Medicare. The state has also controlled nursing home costs to contain Medicaid expenditures. There are 38,000 Medicaid recipients in nursing homes, at an average annual cost of \$31,000. This amounts to \$1.2 billion or 35 percent of the total Medicaid budget. Contrast this with the 355,000 recipients of managed care, whose average annual cost is \$3,000, and which totals \$1 billion a year.

These measures have most certainly slowed the rise in Medicaid costs. Under the Republican Congress' plan, Massachusetts might benefit even further since future state payments would be calculated on past reimbursements, and the formula assumes higher growth in Medicaid costs than Massachusetts is currently experiencing. However, long-term estimates project that Medicaid costs will eventually catch up to the federal payments.

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## Families

1946 Was A Very Good Year!!!

### Barakos Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Janice & Edward Barako of Feeding Hills celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary recently at a dinner party held at the Colosseum Banquet House in West Springfield.

The party was hosted by their children, Elaine & Frank Cuphone, Janet & Joseph Barako, and Lynne & John Barszcz and grandchildren, Dan Cuphone, Anne Marie & Michael Barako, and Jennifer & Jonathan Barszcz.

Mr. & Mrs. Barako were married in St. Anthony's Church in Jersey City, New Jersey.

### Alfred Albano Named Good Citizen By Mercy Warren DAR

Mercy Warren Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will recognize 19 "Good Citizens For 1996" at its meeting, Tuesday, March 5th.

These students have been selected by their peers and teachers to represent their respective schools. Representing Agawam High School will be senior Alfred Albano.

Being selected a DAR Good Citizen is a special honor and is recognized on college entrance resumes. This annual occasion will be held in the Guild Rooms of Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Ave., at 1:00 p.m., preceded by a finger sandwich luncheon provided by the Betsy Ross Club at 12:15 p.m.

Those persons interested in DAR membership are welcome and may call Marian Roan of Longmeadow (567-5771), Shirley Gentry of West Springfield (733-5484), or Jodie McGuinness of Westfield (562-0957).



EDWARD & JANICE BARAKO

### Kelly A. Shaw Joins U.S. Army Under Delayed Enlistment

Kelly A. Shaw has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Enlistment Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Springfield, Mass.

The Delayed Enlistment Program gives young men or women the opportunity to delay enlistment into the Army for up to one year before reporting to basic military training.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel, and become eligible to receive as much as \$30,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

Shaw, a senior at Agawam High School, will report to Fort Jackson, S.C., for military basic training July 24, 1996.

She is the daughter of David R. and Donna S. Shaw of 58 Nicole Terrace, Feeding Hills.

### "Job Fair" To Be Held At Riverside Park On Fri., February 23rd

A "Job Fair" is scheduled to take place on Friday, February 23rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Riverside Park's Personnel Training Center, 1623 Main Street (Rte. 159), Agawam.

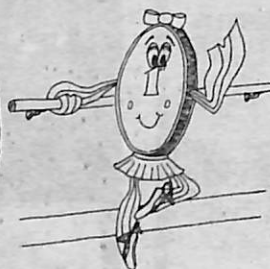
Over 1,500 positions will be available at the fair, and applicants must be at least 16 years of age. Moreover, applicants can earn up to \$9.25 per hour.

So, come to the "Job Fair" to meet and talk to Riverside's department representatives. For more information, call the Personnel Office at (413) 786-9300, ext. 3329.

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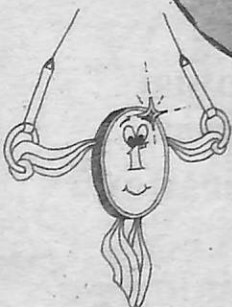
- Babysitting Certification - 3/16/96
- CPR Certification - 3/8/96
- First Aid Certification - 3/9/96



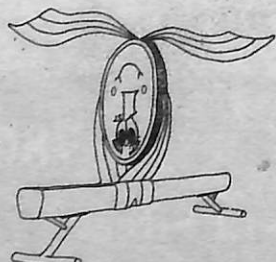
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## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, February 19th:** Senior Center closed (Presidents' Day).

**Tuesday, February 20th:** Stuffed cabbage, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, Canadian oat bread, cantaloupe.

**Wednesday, February 21st:** Vegetable lasagna, acorn squash, whole wheat bread, canned peaches.

**Thursday, February 22nd:** Chicken pot-pie (chicken, celery, potatoes, carrots), tossed salad, pumpernickel bread, pineapple chunks.

**Friday, February 23rd:** Baked fish, baked beans, spinach, rye bread, rice pudding.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

## Pvt. Kevin Dejoinville Graduates From Army Course

Army Reserve Pvt. Kevin J. Dejoinville has graduated from the motor transport operator course at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

During the course, students received training in the operation and maintenance of light and heavy military vehicles. Instructions were given in transportation of personnel, equipment, and supplies.

Dejoinville is the son of Edward P. and Paula J. Dejoinville of 420 Main St., Agawam.

He is a 1992 graduate of Tri County Ruths High School, Franklin, Mass.

## Three Couples Celebrate Anniversaries



RECENTLY, THREE COUPLES celebrated their anniversaries together. From left - Dick & Caroline Bassett, 40 years; Don & Pat Corbin, 45 years; and Ed & Faye Judkins, 30 years. Congratulations to all the happy couples.

## Agawam Senior Center Friends Conducting "Friends Drive" For More Memberships

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center is currently conducting its annual membership drive for 1996. "Friends" is a nonprofit organization which dedicates its efforts to benefit Agawam's seniors and the Senior Center.

In 1995, "Friends" held its second pancake breakfast. The organization also celebrated its 10th anniversary with a dinner at Chez Josef. Proceeds from these events went towards the purchase of a new pool table for the Senior Center. "Friends" also provided other needed equipment

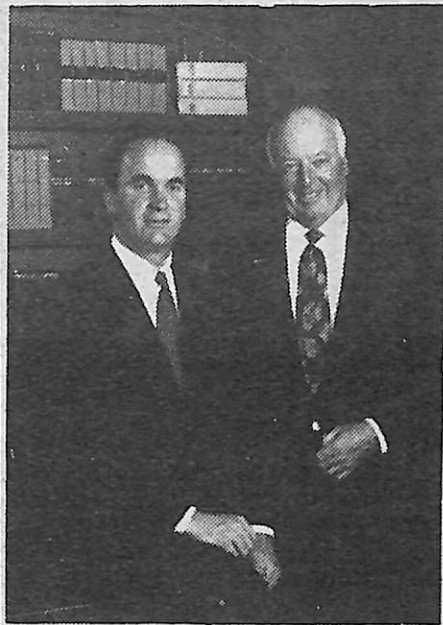
for the center, such as a new step ladder and six new tables.

Membership in "Friends" is open to all Agawam residents, regardless of age. Membership renewals were recently mailed to all current members. Annual dues are \$3 and corporate sponsorships are available at \$15 for the year. Interested persons may sign up at the Senior Center or may contact Joanne Willis at 789-1360 for further information.

Best local news...

Check our classified pages every week!

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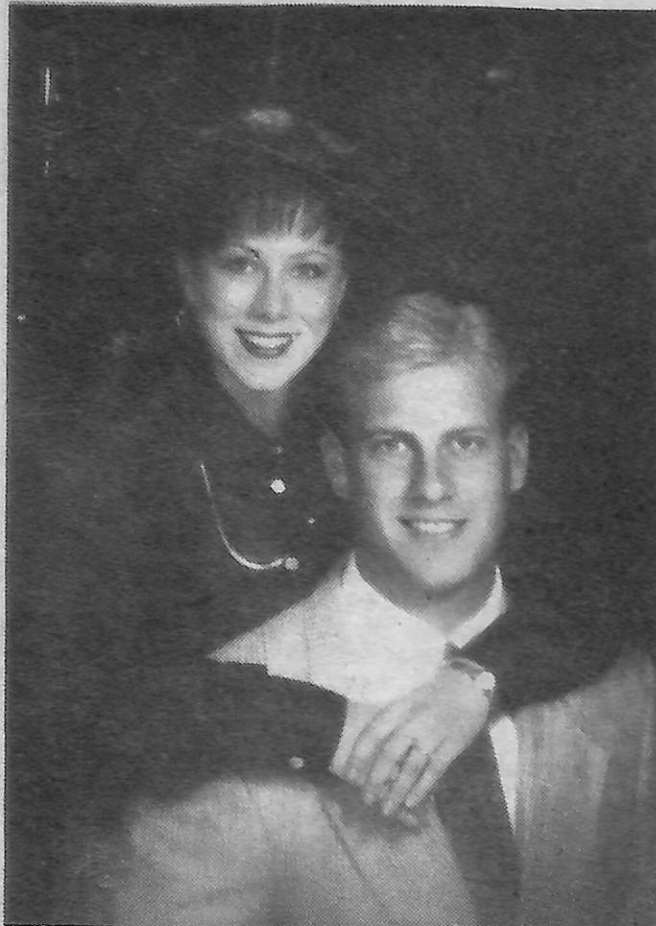
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KIMBERLY MARSDEN &amp; JAMES BAILEY

## Kimberly Marsden To Wed James Bailey

Robert and Paula Marsden of 26 Hilltop Drive, Monson, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly L. Marsden, to James P. Bailey, son of Leo and Sandy (Losito) Bailey of 56 Wilbraham Road, Monson.

The prospective bride and groom are also residents of Monson. The grandparents of the groom-to-be are Claire and Michael Losito, 489 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam.

Kimberly is a graduate of both Monson High School and Springfield Technical Community College, and is currently employed as a cosmetologist at DiGrigoli Salon in West Springfield.

James also graduated from Monson High School and earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Western New England College. In addition, he has earned a business degree from North Adams State College. He is currently employed at Bailey Motors in Springfield.

The date of the wedding has been set for May 25, 1996.

## Magician Coming Back To Agawam Library During Feb. Vacation

The Agawam Public Library has invited local magician Ed Popielarczyk back on Wednesday, February 21st, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. for some school vacation fun.

School-aged kids are invited to share the fun of this lively magic show. After the program, Ed will design one of his famous "balloon creations" for each youngster in attendance to take home.

Preregistration is a must, so call 789-1550, or stop by at 750 Cooper Street if you'd like to attend.

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## Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP To Meet On Mon., February 26th

The Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter 4915 of AARP will hold its regular monthly meeting on February 26th at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Tami Nelson, chiropractic physician. Her topic will be "Health and Fitness: How to Overcome Stress, Relief for Headaches, Neck and Lower Back Pain, and Arthritis."

You can benefit from this lecture if you are suffering from any of the referenced discomforts. We all have some problems for which chiropractic treatment can bring relief.

All members are invited to attend, even if you are not a member of our chapter. Members are urged to bring their friends. Refreshments will be served.

If you have any questions, please call Pauline Paquette, Vice-President, at 786-1866.

## Jr. Women's Club Kickin' Up Heels For Country Western Night

Time to kick up your heels and join the Agawam Junior Women's Club in an evening of Country Western dancing featuring the "Broken Spoke" band. The event takes place on February 24th at the Springfield Turnverein from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.

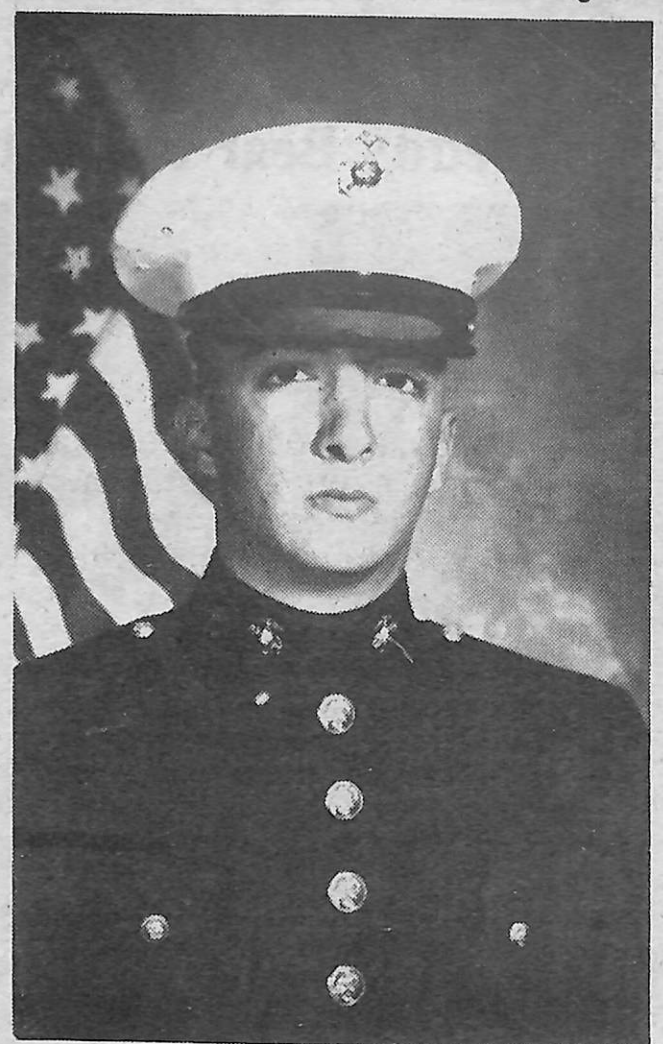
The Turnverein is located at 176 Garden St. in Agawam.

Don't know how to dance? No problem. Your ticket entitles you to free instruction from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. Instruction will be provided by Tim Welesky. So join us and let the fun begin!

There will be plenty of refreshments. Chile, Nachos, and drinks will be on sale. This is one event you don't want to miss! Tickets are obtainable through Donna Shibley. Call 786-3888.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

*For all the local news, you turn our pages every week*



PVT. MICHAEL M. SENFLUG

## Pvt. Michael Senflug Completes Training For Marine Corps.

Private Michael Myles Senflug, son of Myles and Patricia Senflug of 418 Meadow St., Agawam, recently completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina.

A 1995 graduate of Agawam High School, Senflug enlisted in the Marine Corps during October 1995.

Currently on leave, Pvt. Senflug is assisting his recruiter, Sgt. Kenneth D. Jones, whose office is located at 1550 Main St., Springfield (Room 112).

On February 20th, Pvt. Senflug will depart for Fort Sill, Oklahoma for further training in the Field Artillery occupational specialty.

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# Church News

## Teddy Bear Fun At F.H. Congregational



CHILDREN AT THE FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH in Feeding Hills Center recently participated in a "Teddy Bear Drive" at the church.

## Methodist Church To Honor Memory Of Anna Howard Shaw

During the month of February, the birthday of Anna Howard Shaw is celebrated. Her witness as a lay woman within the church has effectively left footprints on the sands of time.

Sunday, February 18th will be celebrated at Agawam United Methodist Church to mark the memory of this honored person. The special guest speaker for the occasion is the Conference President of the United Methodist Women.

Other participants in the service will be the women of the church. The women will assist by ushering, reading scripture, and prayers.

Sunday is also the Sunday of Youth Participation. Some of our youth will share in the conduct of Worship.

Join us for this grand occasion.

Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. There will be a Children's Message and Sunday School as part of the Worship experience.

Sunday, February 18th, coffee and donuts will follow during the fellowship hour in the church hall.

## Sacred Heart Church Continues Plans For 50th Anniversary

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration of Sacred Heart Church on May 19, 1996, there will be a display of memorabilia at Chez Josef portraying the life and growth of the parish community.

The organizing committee is requesting that anyone having photographs, news clippings, programs, or other items of interest would consider loaning them for this event. Remembrances of the early years would be of special interest. Please call Jim Griffin, 786-3182, or May Zu'bi, 786-3110.

There are still a few of the ceramic commemorative trivets, featuring a picture of the church, available at the rectory during the week or in the sacristy after weekend Masses. They can be put to practical use or are an attractive wall hanging.

Children who grew up in Sacred Heart Parish, played on the ballfields, married in the church, and have since left this area, might like to have this keepsake.

## Lenten Plans Unveiled At First Baptist Church

On Ash Wednesday, February 21st, at 7:00 p.m., there will be a service featuring contemporary Christian music, readings, and testimonials, followed by a time of fellowship and light refreshments.

Throughout the Lenten season on Wednesdays, mid-week prayer time will be preceded by a continental breakfast at 7:00 a.m. and meditation in the chapel until 7:30 a.m.

On Wednesday evenings from February 28th through March 27th, three study/discussion groups will be offered from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

A parent effectiveness group for parents of children through sixth grade will be conducted by co-leaders Phyllis Lewis and Larry Harbeson. Mrs. Lewis, principal of Granger School, and Mr. Harbeson, home-school adjustment counselor for Agawam schools, have had past experience conducting parenting groups and have been very well-received.

A group for parents and their teenagers will be led by Rev. Richard Barnes and Christian Education Director Tim Deik.

A bible study group will be offered to any interested, and will be led by Mr. John Muncie.

At the conclusion of the group meetings, a time of fellowship and refreshment will take place. Child care, including crafts and refreshments, is available for these five evenings.

On Palm Sunday, March 31st, at 8:30 a.m., preceding morning worship, a breakfast is planned by the Youth Leader team and the Caring Connection.

The Maundy Thursday evening program on April 4th will be a Seder meal prepared by the Sunshine Circle. More details on this will be available at a later date.

First Baptist will host the ecumenical Good Friday evening service this year.

Easter Sunday morning service will be held at 9:30 a.m. with special music planned. We welcome all to join us for any or all of the Lenten events. Our church is located at the corner of Main and Elm Streets. For further information, call the church office at 786-7300.

\*\*\*

On our calendar this week:

**Sunday, February 18th:** 9:30 a.m. morning worship - Pastor Barnes' topic, "Behold How They Love"; 10:30 a.m., coffee and conversation and classes; 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Junior High meeting.

**Tuesday, February 20th:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:30 p.m., Mr. & Mrs. Club covered dish supper (guest speaker - Mari Benade).

**Wednesday, February 21st:** 7:00 a.m., Continental Breakfast and Meditation - Hall Chapel; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:00 p.m., Contemporary Worship Service (Ash Wednesday celebration in sanctuary).

**Thursday, February 22nd:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

*Best local news...*

Check our classified pages

## The Cutting Edge Hair & Nail Salon



The staff at The Cutting Edge welcomes Kim Bartorillo, formerly of Unlimited Lengths in Agawam, and would like to welcome her clients to her new location with a February Nail Special.

### ½ Price Special

Bring a friend!  
1st full set - full price  
2nd set - ½ price  
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### Manicure/Pedicure Special!

**\$25.00**  
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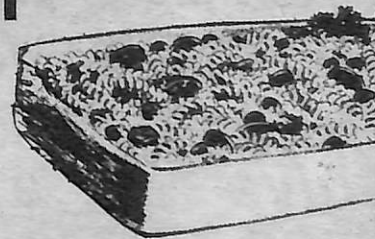
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## Macaroni—Meatball Supper

**Thursday  
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## St. John's Hall

833 Main St.  
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**Adults \$4.50  
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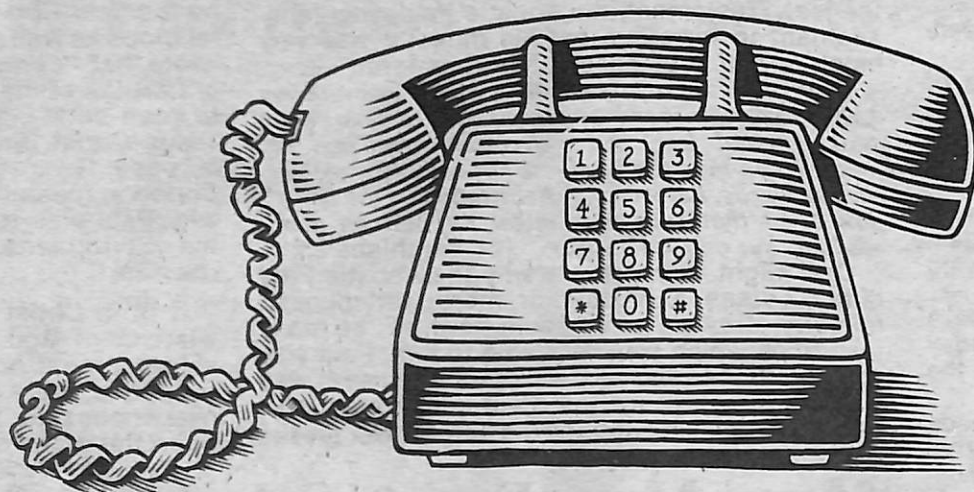
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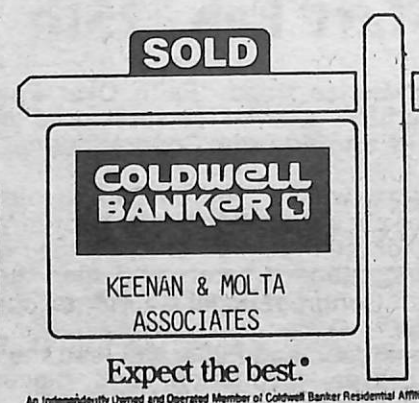
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## Church News - continued...

News & Notes From  
F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday School for children and adults begins at 9:00 a.m. Children are then welcome to attend morning worship with their parents at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Donaldson will preach a sermon entitled "The Silver Lining." Nursery care will be provided.

\*\*\*

The Sunday School is sponsoring the T Bear Drive, a collection drive for used stuffed animals in good condition. The animals will be offered for adoption to the elderly residents of local nursing homes.

A stuffed animal can be of great comfort to a person who needs a hug. The toys will be cleaned, combed, and supplied with new ribbons, as needed, by the young people in Sunday School.

Please bring your stuffed animals in need of love to the Feeding Hills Congregational Church at 21 N. Westfield Street or call the office at 786-5061.

\*\*\*

The Annual Meeting of the church, which was reconvened on Sunday, February 11th, was again adjourned until Sunday, February 25th, following morning worship.

The Christian Education Board will provide a spaghetti luncheon as a fundraiser for the Sunday School. In conjunction with the T Bear Drive, the theme will be a teddy bear's picnic.

The meal will include spaghetti, homemade bread, salad, beverage, and dessert. A donation of \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children is suggested.

\*\*\*

*Faith Over Fear: A Lenten Journey* is a six-week spiritual quest sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church and the Agawam Congregational Church.

The first three Sunday meetings in the series will take place at the Feeding Hills church on February 25th and March 3rd and 10th. The concluding three meetings will take place at the Agawam church on March 17th, 24th, and 31st.

The meetings will begin at 7:15 p.m. with prayer and singing, and will include a time for meditation and discussion. Please call either the Feeding Hills Congregational Church at 786-5061 or the Agawam Congregational Church at 786-7111 for more information.

\*\*\*

An overnight retreat at Craigville on Cape Cod is being planned by the Confirmation class. The retreat will begin on Friday, March 15th, and conclude on Saturday, March 16th.

If you are a member of this class, or an adult interested in helping, please contact Melinda Lane at church for more information or to let her know you are planning to attend.

\*\*\*

There will be an evening worship service at this church on Ash Wednesday, February 21st, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The service was taken from the UCC Book of Worship and will include donning the ashes of repentance.

\*\*\*

On the calendar this week:

**Sunday, February 18th:** 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; Operation Friendship meeting after church.

**Monday, February 19th:** 5:15 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Trustees.

**Tuesday, February 20th:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

**Wednesday, February 21st:** 2:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Ash Wednesday Service; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

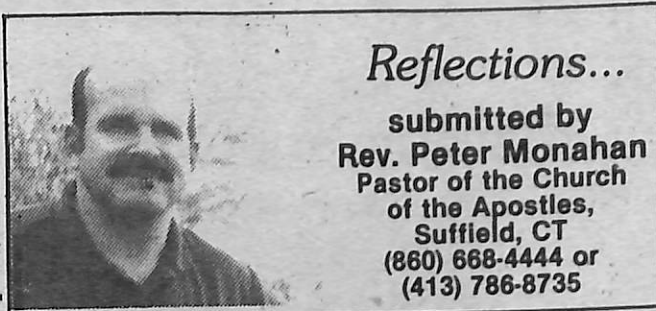
Lenten Series Called  
"Faith Over Fear"  
To Start Feb. 25th

A Lenten Series titled "Faith Over Fear - A Lenten Journey" will be co-sponsored by the Feeding Hills and Agawam Congregational Churches.

The program will be held on Sunday nights at 7:15 p.m. for six weeks, beginning February 25th. It will meet for the first three weeks at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, and then move to the Agawam Congregational Church for the final three weeks.

Revs. Donaldson and Fuller will lead the series of song, prayer, meditation, and discussion. Childcare will be provided.

Check our classified



## Reflections...

submitted by  
Rev. Peter Monahan  
Pastor of the Church  
of the Apostles,  
Suffield, CT  
(860) 668-4444 or  
(413) 786-8735

"Knowing God Is The  
Substance Of Our Faith"

The presidential campaign of 1996 is officially underway. One of the main criticisms of the candidates will undoubtedly be that they favor form over substance. As to whether or not that is true is for others to determine.

In the meantime, one of the principal writers of the New Testament, the Apostle Paul, was fairly adamant in insisting that his ministry was very much one of substance, rather than form.

*"For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power."* (1 Corinthians 2:2-5)

One might very well ask why the Apostle Paul didn't pursue a broader or more well-rounded ministry, drawing as he could have on the many resources which were available to him. Paul was very intelligent and very well educated, so it was not due to ignorance that Paul deliberately concentrated his message and his ministry on "Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

Many More Events Scheduled In February  
At Agawam Congregational Church

This Sunday, February 18th, Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "Can You Hear?" taken from the Text: Matthew 17:1-9. The Children's Message will be "Building Blocks!"

The Heifer Project begins this Sunday and will continue through to Sunday, March 24th, when all monies collected will be donated.

\*\*\*

The Wednesday night Midweek Service has changed to a new time, 7:30 p.m.

Join us at this Informal Worship Service with hymns, prayers, meditation, and communion.

\*\*\*

A planning meeting for the one-day April Vacation Bible Camp at Agawam Congregational Church, has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 20th, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the Crib Room at the church.

Bring your ideas, enthusiasm, and helpfulness to the meeting. The one-day Vacation Bible Camp will be Friday, April 19th.

\*\*\*

Paul did that because he understood that the fundamental problem of every single person is estrangement from God, and that it was on the cross that Jesus Christ atoned for your sins and mine, and so opened up the possibility of fellowship between a person and his or her Creator.

This would include people who have enjoyed the wonderful experience of being awakened by and to the grace of God, those who are regular church-goers but don't really feel like they know God personally and intimately, as well as those who are presently indifferent to the things of God.

Earlier in this same book, Paul had written that "Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom," and though the names have changed, the truth remains. There are some people who will only believe in God, or keep believing in God, if they see miracles of some sort; some insist they must occur in their own lives.

Others think the way to salvation is knowledge or wisdom; a matter of the head but with little or no touch of God in the heart. This is true for both religious as well as nonreligious people. Paul also wrote that "Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God." As Billy Graham likes to say, if you want to know what God looks like, take a good look at Jesus Christ. Being religious should not be our purpose, it is only a means to an end. Being a Christian means knowing God personally. That is why Paul was resolved to know nothing among the Corinthians, "except Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

It is in Christ that the power of God and the wisdom of God are manifested for us, and the estrangement from God is resolved. When God is our friend, there is no problem or challenge which overwhelms us. Then we are in a position to draw upon the grace of God, and never come up short.

A "Young At Heart Brunch" will be held Sunday, February 25th, at 12:00 noon. Seniors citizens will be the "guests of honor" for this free brunch.

Soup and salad is the main menu, with homemade pies for dessert. Sign up for this brunch at the Coffee Hours, or call the church office at 786-7111 to make your reservation.

\*\*\*

An Evening Playgroup will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. for 10 weeks. Sessions will be held on: March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th (no session on April 16th), May 7th, 14th, and 21st.

A fee will be charged to cover operating expenses. The Playgroup will offer playtime, crafts, snacks, singing and dancing, fun, and friendship for children and adults alike.

This Playgroup is limited to 12 families, so sign up now and reserve your place in this most unique group! Call Grace Tilden at the church office (786-7111) for reservations and more information.

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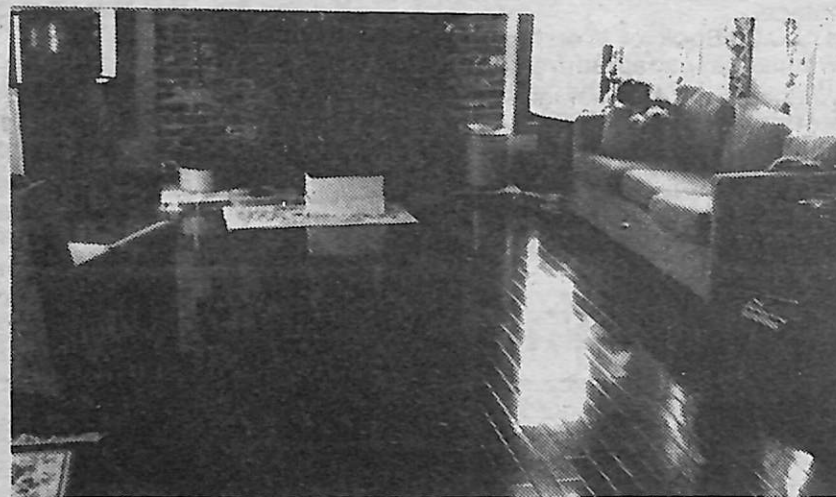
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## Church News - continued...

The Season Of Lent  
Is Almost Upon Usby Rev. Robert C. Donaldson  
Feeding Hills Congregational Church

Lent comes early this year. Ash Wednesday is February 21st, 40 days (not counting Sundays) before Easter, which, in turn, occurs on the first Sunday following the full moon that occurs on or about March 21st.

The determination of the date for Easter, and (therefore) for Lent itself, was a slow and controversial process, as it seems are most things the church does. But the intent and result were simple.

For 40 days, Christians commemorated Christ's suffering by a season of fasting and prayer. For 40 days (not counting Sundays, which are always feast days in the Western Christian tradition), Christians ate sparingly and otherwise intended to purify their lives by acts of penitence. The result was that Easter was, for centuries, the great feast day of the Christian calendar, far surpassing Christmas in importance.

The logic is there. Everyone is born, but only Jesus the Christ was resurrected from the dead, and that great miracle was enacted for our benefit. So, in gratitude, Christians have burned the palms of the previous Palm Sunday and worn them smudged on their foreheads as a sign of repentance for the sins which made Christ's suffering necessary.

Church historians trace this practice back to the sixth century, and it became an official part of church life after the Synod of Benevento in 1091. But its words hearken all the way back to Genesis: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

This ancient tradition, as well as many others, has not been widely observed within the Protestant community, but in recent years, a sort of reclamation of our past has begun. As with so much else, Christians have differed on the merits of observing Ash Wednesday with ashes.

One way to look at the resurgence of this particular tradition, I suppose, is that Protestants are as sinful as anyone, and as much in need of repentance.

The U.C.C. Book of Worship has an Order for Ash Wednesday, adapted from the Book of Common Prayer and the Lutheran Book of Worship. I would like to offer that service.

I invite you to join me in laying claim to an element of our history which has been, until fairly recently, all but lost to Protestants. I invite you to don the ashes of repentance on Ash Wednesday.

Worship on Ash Wednesday, February 21st, will begin at 6:30 p.m.

'Together With Jesus'  
At St. John's Church

ST. DAVID'S CHURCH WILL WELCOME THE REV. JOHN & CAROL MAHER of Pennsylvania, who will lead a Conference at the Church Building this weekend entitled, "Together in Jesus."

Worship Services will be held Friday and Saturday nights, February 16th and 17th, at 7:00 p.m., and a number of other gatherings are planned for Saturday during the day.

The public is welcome to attend the worship services, or to contact the Parish Office to register for Saturday.

AT THE WEEKEND WORSHIP SERVICES, the Quiet Service Saturday at 5:00 p.m., the Traditional Service Sunday at 8:00 a.m. (both at the church building), and the Contemporary Service Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (at the Agawam Middle School), the Rev. John Maher will be our guest preacher, and will bring a message focusing on coming together in Christ.

ST. DAVID'S WILL PARTICIPATE IN PRAYER at a regionwide "Concert of Prayer" to be held Monday, February 19th, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Church, 45 Buckingham Street, Springfield.

The 90 minutes spent in prayer will focus on asking God to bring renewal to the church and revival to the land.

Contact St. David's Church Office if you wish to join us, leaving Feeding Hills at about 6:30 p.m.

SMALL GROUPS ARE BEING READIED FOR LENT, focusing on prayer, study, and fellowship. Those interested in joining such a small group, set to meet for the six weeks of Lent.

Contact the Church Office for details.

ST. DAVID'S WILL USHER IN LENT with services of the Holy Eucharist on Ash Wednesday, February 21st, at 7:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

These one-hour services will provide opportunity for private reflection, a general confession, and the optional imposition of ashes as a sign of penitence and a recognition of our mortality.

Join us as we seek to keep the discipline of a "Holy Lent," listening to God's Word and moving in His Spirit.

Youth Group At Sacred Heart Church  
Plans Snow Afternoon; Rummage Sale Set

The Youth Group of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills will be holding a Snow Afternoon on Monday, February 19th, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. This Afternoon will be held outdoors.

There will be hot chocolate and snacks. Plan on dressing for the occasion and bring dry clothes to change into afterwards.

There will also be a Pot Luck Dinner & Game Night on Thursday, February 22nd from 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Please come and bring a friend. For further information, please call Alma at 786-9835 or Beth at 786-0158.

A woman is looking for a ride to church and will go to any Mass. She lives on Suffield Street. If you can help, please call Sister Eileen at 786-8200.

The Spring Program for the Center for Spiritual Direction will present a Pre-Lenten Evening for Men: Are You Man Enough for Lent? on Tuesday, February 20th from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Presenters are Margaret Lynch, SND and Virginia Sheehan, SND. It will be held in the Medical Staff Room in the Deliso Center of Mercy Hospital. Donation is \$5.

There will be a Rummage Sale in the Parish Center of Sacred Heart Church in April. We ask you to keep this in mind as you check spring and summer clothes for your family. There will also be a White Elephant Room.

The sale is planned by "Members of our Parish Family."

The monthly collection for the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry will take place February 17th-18th.

Especially needed are canned soups, baked beans, canned spaghetti, peanut butter, jelly, tuna fish, cereals, baby food, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, toothpaste, and bath soap.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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| 10 Lbs. Or More                                | \$1.99 Lb. |
| Boneless New York Strip Steaks                 | \$4.99 Lb. |
| Center Cut Pork Chops                          | \$2.39 Lb. |
| Loin End Roast                                 | \$1.89 Lb. |
| Rib End Roast                                  | \$1.69 Lb. |
| Boneless Pork Roast (Cut From Loin Or Rib End) | \$2.19 Lb. |
| Country Style Ribs                             | \$1.89 Lb. |
| Fresh Ground Pork                              | \$1.99 Lb. |
| Fresh Ground Chuck                             |            |
| 5 Lbs. Or More                                 | \$1.79 Lb. |
| 10 Lbs. Or More                                | \$1.59 Lb. |

## WHOLESALE MEATS

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| Whole Boneless Top Rounds | \$1.69 Lb. |
| Whole Pork Loins          | \$1.89 Lb. |
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| Russer German Bologna               | \$1.19 Lb. |
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| Margerita Mortadella                | \$2.69 Lb. |
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| Hood Half & Half Cream (Quart)      | 99¢    |
| Hood Heavy Cream (Pint)             | 99¢    |

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| Frozen Swordfish Steaks | \$3.99 Lb. |
| Pre-Cooked Fish Cakes   | 89¢ Lb.    |

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It's not too late to plan some fun activities for your children next week! Fitness First will keep them busy with fun activities including exercise, games, crafts and swimming from 10am to 2pm Monday thru Thursday starting February 19th!

**Call Fitness First for registration information at 786-1460!**

**Only \$65 for the week or \$20 a day!**



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## CHILDREN'S SPRING SWIM LESSONS!

*Fitness First will begin the Spring Session of CHILDREN'S SWIM LESSONS the week of March 9th! Sign up your child today as each class is limited to 12 children! 786-1460*  
**8 Week Sessions are only \$65!**

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| Toddler Swim & Gym (2 - 4 yrs)      | Mon. or Fri.         | 9:15 am  |
| Baby & Me Swim & Gym (6 mos - 2yrs) | Tues.                | 9:15 am  |
| Preschool Swim & Gym (4 - 6 yrs)    | Tues. at 1:00 pm     |          |
|                                     | or Thurs. at 9:15 am |          |
| Beginner Swim (5 yrs & up)          | Wed. or Thurs.       | 4:30 pm  |
| Advanced Swim                       | Wed. or Thurs.       | 5:15 pm  |
| Baby and Me Swim                    | Sat.                 | 9:00 am  |
| Toddler Swim                        | Sat.                 | 10:00 am |
| Preschool Swim                      | Sat.                 | 11:00 am |



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## Spotlight On Business

### Mexican Cuisine Really Catching On At "Los Dorados" On River Road

by Peggy Shoemaker  
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Persons choosing, or interested in trying, Mexican cuisine could not do better than to visit **Los Dorados** at 195 River Road, one of Agawam's most beautiful restaurants, and dive into authentic Mexican fare.

"Dishes are made from recipes originating in many sections of Mexico and prepared in the old country way by chefs who were trained in Mexico," Nick Shah of Agawam, owner and host, said in a recent interview.

The menu is extensive and one recognizes the more familiar Tacos, Burritos, and Enchiladas. But there is so much more, such as steak, chicken, and pork, all prepared in traditional Mexican ways. Shah said that the sizzling Fajitas are probably the most popular choices.

Sections of the menu are: salads, soups and chili grande; tacos and burritos; combinational platters; nine enchilada specialties served with rice and refried beans; 16 vegetarian platters; and 19 house specialties served with Spanish rice, refried beans, and pico de gallo relish. Most specialties are served on hot platters or skillets.

The house specialties are perhaps the cream of the crop. Some of the features are: camarones (shrimp), pescado ala plancha (swordfish steak), caritas (loin of pork), and pollo ala parilla (marinated charbroiled chicken breast topped with mushrooms, onions, and peppers marinade, crowned with Jack cheese and baked).

If barbeque suits your taste, there are pork and beef ribs, as well as chicken.

The children's menu includes hamburgers and grilled cheese sandwiches in addition to Mexican fare.

"While some dishes are hot to the taste

because they are flavored with Mexican spices, many are not," Shah said. "And the meals are complimented with choices of 15 side dishes."

Desserts include sopapillas, a freshly made Mexican pastry deep fried and topped with powdered sugar, cinnamon, honey, or chocolate syrup; flan, a favorite egg custard served with whipped cream; apple filled empanada; fried ice cream, and Mexican cheesecake.

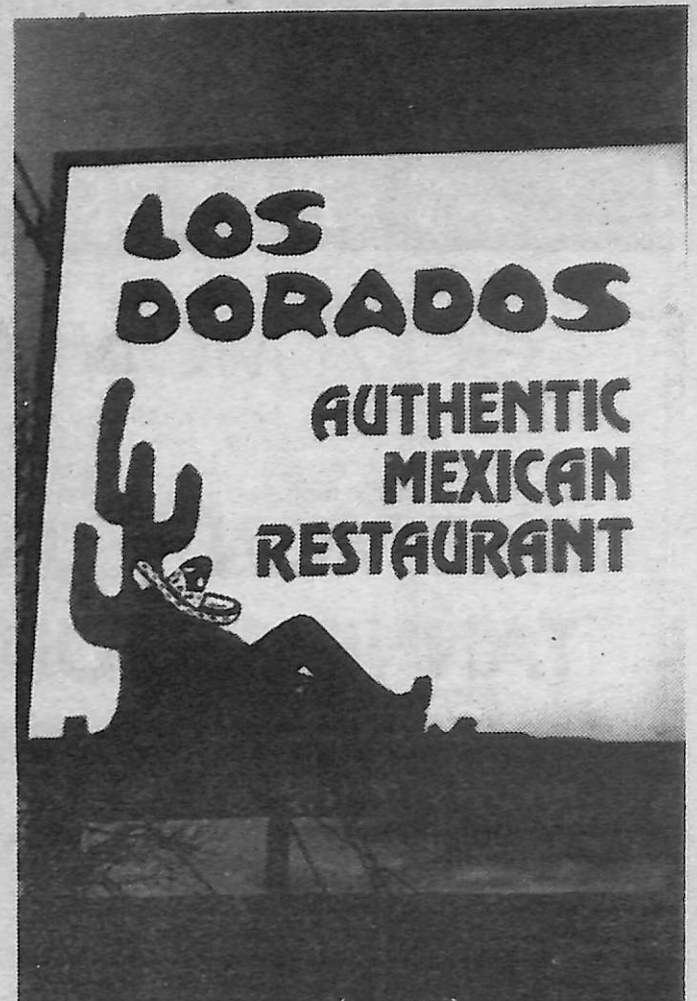
Margaritas are the specialty of the well-stocked bar. They are made in many different ways, including frozen, but the recipe is a family secret, Shah said.

There are also a half-dozen tequilla drinks, including Tijuana tea. Other beverages include Mexican beers, pina coladas, five fruit daquiris, and a bevy of special coffees.

To aid the novice with the menu choices, the back of the menu has a sort of dictionary of foods and fiestas, spelling out the Spanish names, indicating pronunciations, and meanings. For interesting information, the menu also lists Mexican holidays and fiestas (with information on each of them).

**Los Dorados** is in an uncluttered area of River Road, across the street from the Connecticut River. Most of its broad windows allow the diner an unfettered view of the river that can also be seen from the upstairs dining room. A railing around the upstairs room also permits diners there a view of the first floor dining area.

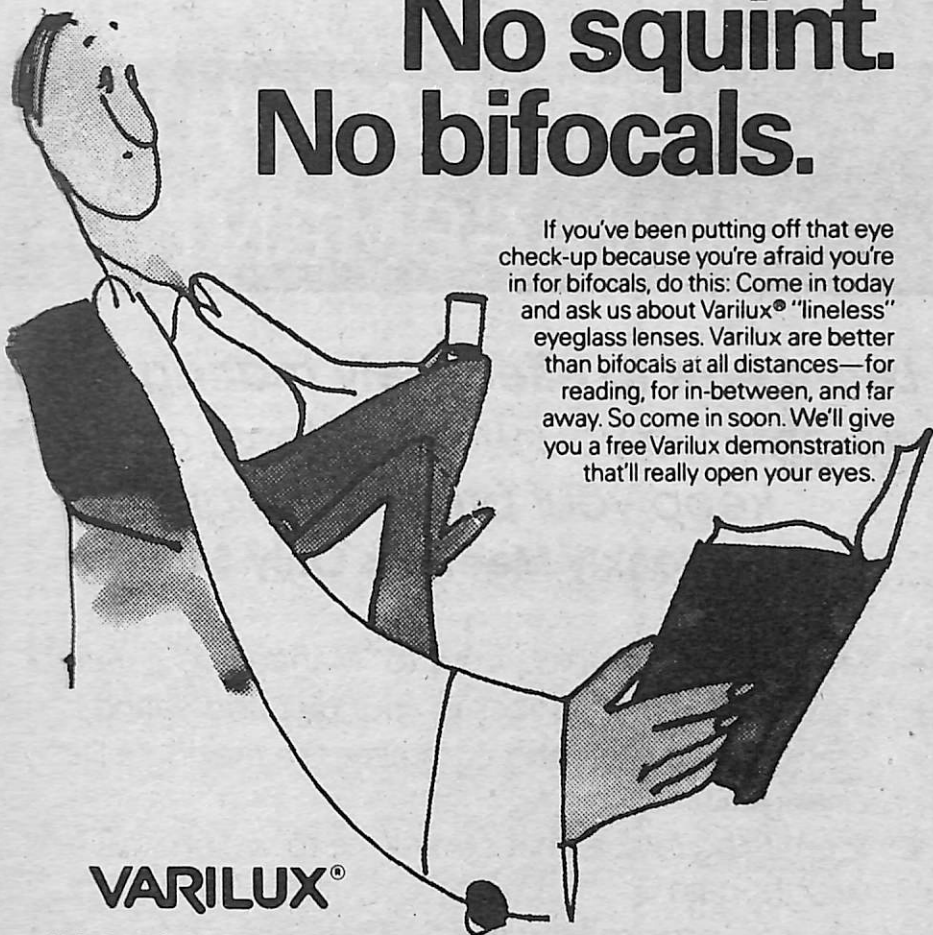
SEE LOS DORADOS - Page 21...



THE SIGN AT LOS DORADOS tells it all. The restaurant is located at 195 River Road, Agawam, along the scenic Connecticut River.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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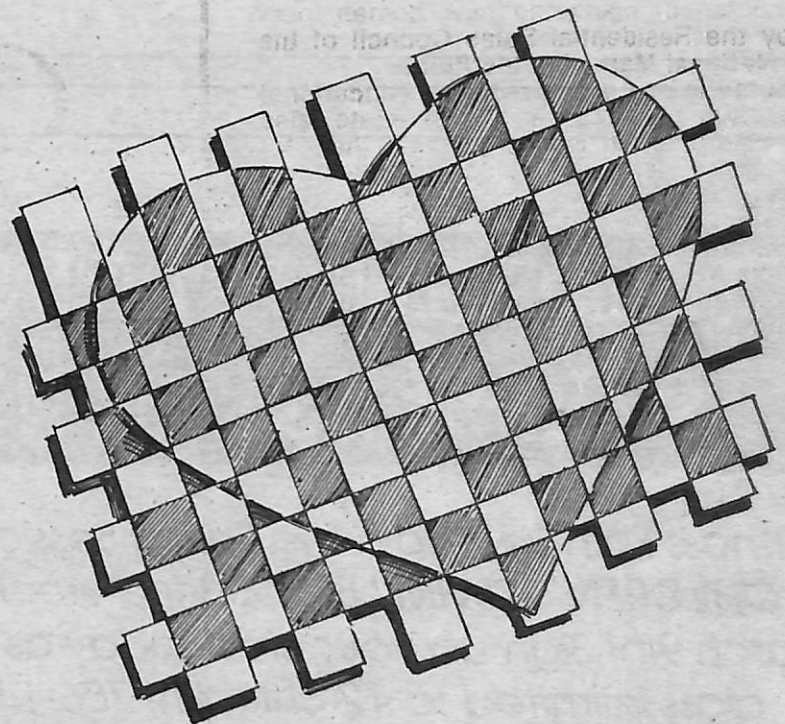
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*for they will return to me with all their heart."*  
Jeremiah 24:7

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Sunday School & Nursery: Sunday 10 A.M.  
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Healing Service - Thursday, Feb. 29 at 7 P.M.

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## Spotlight On Business - continued...

### LOS DORADOS - from Page 20...

The decor motif is tastefully Mexican, the clean look augmented by shiny table tops and brass rails. The brass rails separate sections of the dining room. Mexican artifacts include sombreros and striped, fringed sarapes (strategically placed), and there are pictures of Mexican dances and vases of flowers throughout.

The music, although featuring brass, is played softly, creating an upbeat but quiet mood.

Shah is a native of India and graduated from Penn State in 1983 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He married a woman from Texas whose family introduced him into the food business and encouraged him to start a quality Mexican restaurant in New England.

He opened a restaurant in 1987, also called **Los Dorados**, in Glastonbury, Connecticut. The restaurant is about the same size as the Agawam one and is still open.

The family moved to Glendale Street, Agawam about 12 years ago and the couple now has two small sons. They opened the Agawam restaurant in 1993. Shah said he admired the building and considers the town a good place to work and live.

The local restaurant was once known as Ernie's Steak and Seafood Restaurant, and there was a small boat moored on the river with spotlights on it at night, adding to the diner's pleasure.

Shah is a busy man, spending all his time between the two restaurants. He said he feels he maintains an attractive, restful setting for area folks to enjoy the tasteful food his staff prepares.

The restaurant is open for dinners only on Tuesday and Wednesday, 4:30 to 10:00 p.m.; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 4:30 to 10:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 3:30 to 10:00 p.m. **Los Dorados** is closed on Mondays and the telephone number is 786-3005.

## Stearns & Yerrall Agent Attends Real Estate Course

George R. Yerrall, President of Stearns & Yerrall Realtors, announces that Sylvia Foster of the Agawam Sales Office recently completed an advanced course in marketing new homes, conducted by the Residential Sales Council of the Realtors National Marketing Institute.

The course is one of the required educational sequences that must be taken by real estate sales agents in the program that will qualify them for the prestigious Certified Residential Specialist (CRS) designation.

Ms. Foster is also a member of the Greater Springfield Board of Realtors and the Massachusetts Association of Realtors. She also holds a Business Administration Degree in Management and Communication Studies from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Ms. Foster currently resides in Enfield, Connecticut.

## Stearns & Yerrall Participating In AHS Renaissance Program

Stearns & Yerrall, Inc. Realtors is pleased to announce its participation in the 1996 Renaissance Programs at Agawam High School, West Springfield High School, Westfield High School, Southwick High School, and Minnechaug Regional High School.

If anyone lives in Agawam, West Springfield, Westfield, Southwick, Granville, Hampden, or Wilbraham and list their home with Stearns & Yerrall now through June 30, 1996, it will be a "Renaissance Home." At the time of sale, a contribution will be made in the homeowner's name by Stearns & Yerrall to the Renaissance Program at their local high school.

Renaissance is part of a national program that rewards academic achievement and responsible behavior. It is designed to motivate students through the use of Renaissance cards which give students prestige and privileges. Many local businesses honor the Renaissance card and give students discounts.

Stearns & Yerrall recognizes the importance of positive student accomplishments and is pleased to contribute to the enhancement of the education programs in these communities.

To learn how to participate in this program, please call one of our offices: Agawam, 786-4408; Longmeadow, 567-3361; Springfield, 785-1511; Westfield, 568-3361; Wilbraham, 596-6123.

*You turn our pages  
each & every week!*



**PART OF THE DINING ROOM OF LOS DORADOS Mexican Restaurant at 195 River Road, Agawam. The restaurant is owned and operated by Agawam resident Nick Shaw. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.**

## Pam Savioli Named "Top Associate" At F.H. Office At Landry, Lyons, & Whyte

Pam Savioli was recently named "Top Associate" of the Feeding Hills Office of Landry Lyons & Whyte/Better Homes & Gardens for 1995 at their annual Kick-Off Breakfast held at Springfield Country Club.

Pam participated in 50 transactions totaling \$6.5 million.

Pam attributes her success to the support of her family, the cooperation of her fellow Realtors, the trust and loyalty of her customers and clients and to her strong commitment to listening to and caring about people's estate wants and needs.

If you are in the market to buy or sell a home or a property, call Pam at 413-786-0663.

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## For Your Health



**JACOB BENNETT** will be one of the youngsters who will be helping to sponsor the **Second Annual Dinner Dance for Epilepsy Awareness** to be held on **Saturday, March 9th**, at **The Oaks Banquet** facility on **Suffield Street**. Proceeds from the event will benefit several agencies involved in **Epilepsy research and support**.

## Dr. Gary Graziano Relocates Office To S. Boulevard In West Side

Dr. Gary Graziano is pleased to announce the relocation of his chiropractic practice to 16 South Boulevard in West Springfield. Dr. Graziano, a West Springfield native, has been practicing in that town for five years.

Active in the areas of health education, he was the author of a Governor's Proclamation in 1991 promoting chiropractic, and last year received a letter from Senator Kennedy's office in recognition of chiropractic's centennial anniversary.

A graduate of American International College and Logan College of Chiropractic, Dr. Graziano

was the recipient of the Logan Alumni Research Award. He has also completed post-doctoral education in Neurology.

He and his wife, Suzanne, currently reside in Agawam with their two children, Maria and Vincent.

*Check  
our  
classified*

## Jacob Bennett To Help Host 2nd Annual Epilepsy Dinner/Dance

For a kid like Jacob Bennett, taking medicine is as ordinary as tying his shoes. For the past 11 years, he has suffered from intractable epilepsy, experiencing daily seizures that medications cannot completely control. Since the age of four, Jacob has used virtually every anticonvulsant on the market, tried specialized diets, and has had brain surgery.

Despite all these struggles, Jacob still maintains his wonderful sense of humor. Like other 15 year-olds, he enjoys video games, studies Tai Kwon Do, and participates in programs at the Drama Studio in Springfield. Jacob is also a member of Outdoor Wilderness Leadership (OWLS), a teen group based in Southwick that stresses personal growth, outdoor skills, and community service. Someday he hopes to get a job that combines his interests in acting and working with animals.

Jacob is the son of District Attorney William Bennett and Mary Frey of Springfield. They, along with several families in the area, will host the second Annual Dinner Dance for Epilepsy Awareness on Saturday, March 9, 1996 at the Oaks Banquet Hall in Agawam. The social hour starts at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at 7:00. A rock and roll band, The Crescents, will be featured.

Proceeds will benefit the Epilepsy Association of Massachusetts, the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program at Children's Hospital, Boston, and patient education at the Pediatric Neurology Clinic of Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

For more information or tickets, please call Wayne & Sue Hearn (786-1529), Gary & Janet Shean (788-2709), Rich & Kathy Karam (786-5426), Rick & Kim Martel (786-1169), or Dean & Susan Shaw (569-0474).

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## For Your Health - continued...



**Your Back And Your Health**

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlafter  
Schlafter  
Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

## Surgery Is Drastic!

**QUESTION:** I've been taking medication for lowback and leg pain and it doesn't seem to be helping. My doctor recommended an MRI scan. The results indicate a disc bulge and now I'm told that surgery on the low back is needed. This seems drastic. Is there any alternative?

**ANSWER:** Yes! When you say drastic, you are so right. Any surgery is a radical procedure and must be done only after more conservative methods have failed.

If you have let your condition progress too far (beyond certain physical limitations of matter), then surgery may be needed. Unfortunately, much of the surgery performed today is unnecessary!

Second opinions are important. Be sure to consult with a chiropractic physician. The science of chiropractic treats the body naturally, without drugs or medication, and definitely without surgery.

If you have a disc bulge, protrusion, partial herniation or rupture, you may find relief through chiropractic treatment. The severity of the disc problem will be the determining factor in whether chiropractic will help you.

So, before you have surgery or continuously mask your symptoms with medication, it makes sense to see your chiropractor. Get his opinion. After all, it's your health we're talking about.

Our offices are conveniently located at 192 Shoemaker Lane. Call 789-1369 or 789-1073.

**Classified ads are \$10 for 30 words or less. Please bring them to the office or mail to Box 263, FH 01030. We open at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.**



## Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician

## Winter Soups - Easy, Delicious And Very "Heart" Healthy

Did you know that low-fat nutritious soups are good for the heart? Soups make us feel good; there's nothing more soothing on a cold winter's day than a warm bowl of soup.

"Soups let us sneak vegetables into our diet," notes Susan Tiller, R.D., spokesperson for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association.

As you may recall, current nutrition guidelines recommend five servings of fruits and vegetables each day—not easy for some people. Squash and pumpkin soups are a tasty, low-fat way to get vitamins, such as vitamin A (a well-studied antioxidant known to have a role in fighting cancer).

Other heart-healthy soups contain beans, such as a hearty black bean or minestrone. Beans are a great source of fiber and are low-fat. However, not all soups are low-fat.

"Be careful of creamy-based soups," Tiller adds. They are high in saturated fats which may raise cholesterol levels. One way to avoid saturated fat in your soup recipe is to substitute evaporated skim milk in place of the cream. This lowers the fat without sacrificing taste.

Watching our fat intake is important in fighting heart disease, which is still the number-one killer in the United States. If you need help in lowering your cholesterol and/or fat intake, contact a registered dietitian for more information.

A recent study done by the Massachusetts Dietetic Association (MDA) found that people who visited a registered dietitian lowered their blood cholesterol levels by an average of over eight percent, which translates to a 17 percent lower risk of heart disease.

So get cooking, and enjoy those heart-healthy soups!

\*\*\*

## CURRIED SQUASH AND APPLE BISQUE

1 medium acorn squash  
1½ tablespoons margarine  
¾ cup chopped onion  
1 large apple, diced

2 teaspoons curry powder  
½ cup apple cider  
4 teaspoons low-sodium, chicken-flavored bouillon granules  
1½ cups water  
1½ cups evaporated skim milk  
Apple slices for garnish  
Paprika and cayenne pepper

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Prick squash all over with fork and place in a baking pan. Bake 1 hour or until tender; cool. Cut in half and remove seeds. Scoop out flesh and set aside.

In a medium saucepan, melt margarine. Stir in onion, apple, and curry powder. Cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently.

Add squash, cider, bouillon granules, and water. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer 30 minutes or until vegetables and apples are tender.

In food processor or blender, puree in small batches until smooth. Return to saucepan and stir in milk. Cook over low heat until heated through.

Serve garnished with apple slices, paprika, or cayenne pepper.

Makes 4 portions.

## BRAZILIAN BLACK BEAN SOUP

2 cups dry black beans, soaked  
6 cups water  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
3 cups chopped onion  
10 medium garlic cloves, crushed  
2 teaspoons cumin  
2 to 2½ teaspoons salt (optional)  
1 medium carrot, diced  
1 medium bell pepper, diced  
1½ cups orange juice  
Black pepper, to taste  
Cayenne, to taste

2 medium tomatoes, diced (optional)  
Optional toppings: fat-free sour cream, cilantro, salsa

Place the soaked beans in a kettle or Dutch oven with 4 cups water. Bring to a boil, cover, and simmer until tender (about 1½ hours).

Heat olive oil in a medium-sized skillet. Add onion, half the garlic, cumin, salt, and carrot. Saute over medium heat until the carrot is just tender. Add remaining garlic and bell pepper. Saute until everything is very tender (another 10 to 15 minutes). Add the sauteed mixture to the beans, scraping in every last morsel.

Stir in orange juice, black pepper, cayenne, and optional tomatoes. Puree all or some of the soup in a blender or food processor, and return to kettle. Simmer over very low heat 10 to 15 minutes more. Serve topped with an artful arrangement of fat-free sour cream, cilantro, and salsa.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Nancy Dell, MS, is the Media Representative for the Western Mass. Dietetic Association and a Registered Dietitian with a private practice in Feeding Hills. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.

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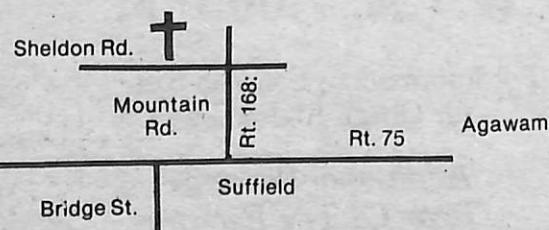
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**For Your Health - continued...****Living Well**

by Rick Hersom  
Fitness Director  
Fitness First Health  
and Fitness Center  
60 N. Westfield St., F.H.  
(413) 786-1460

**Heart Smart, Part 2**

Two weeks ago, we talked about two ways to help cut down on America's number-one killer—cardiovascular diseases.

The first way was through education: by having people speak at work, school, or social activities; by providing information from the American Heart Association; visiting your local library; or calling your local hospital for information.

These are just a few terrific ways to educate yourself and those around you about ways to prevent heart disease (such as through exercise).

The second way to help decrease cardiovascular disease is through contribution. Contribution can take many different forms. You can volunteer your time to the American Heart Association.

Volunteers help with many important activities such as educating groups, administrative duties, and fundraising (just to name a few). You can also make monetary contributions to help support all the great things that the American Heart Association does.

Another great way to contribute is to support activities that the American Heart Association sponsors, such as bike or road races, selling flowers, offer your place of business as a potential site for seminars, or many other ways.

For more ways to contribute or educate yourself, please contact your local American Heart Association chapter. Be Heart Smart!

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**Anxiety Specialist  
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Cynthia Elizabeth Ashley has recently announced her return to the Western Massachusetts area after an 18-month tour of the United States and Canada. She is now accepting counseling appointments for office, home, or telephone sessions.

Ms. Ashley is the former Cynthia Szela and is the Founder and Director of Exposure Therapy and Counseling Services, a specialty practice in treating the anxiety disorders of Panic Disorder, Agoraphobia, and Phobias. She also offers general counseling for adults.

Ms. Ashley has recently opened her offices in Agawam, Northampton, and South Deerfield. Appointments may be made by calling (413) 789-9000 in Agawam, or (413) 665-6621 for Northampton or South Deerfield.

Ms. Ashley also has founded and personally conducts a nationwide telephone counseling service for those who suffer from panic or anxiety and are unable to locate or attend office sessions. The "office alternative" to counseling is available to anyone within the United States or Canada by calling 1-800-400-CALM. Telephone counseling is by appointment only. Major credit cards are accepted. Ms. Ashley also provides home sessions within the local area for those clients who qualify.

In addition, Ms. Ashley offers training seminars throughout the country for students, professionals, and organizations who desire to learn her methods of treating anxiety and panic.

Ms. Ashley is listed in "Who's Who In America" and is a professional member of the Anxiety Disorders Association of America, National Organization of In Vivo Therapists, American Counseling Association, and the American Mental Counseling Association. She is a LCSW with a background in social work since 1977. She works as a therapist, specializing in anxiety disorders for the past 11 years.

For more information and a free brochure, call (413) 789-9000 or write: Cynthia E. Ashley, South End Bridge Circle, Agawam, MA 01001.



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**How Does Your Head  
Restraint Measure Up?**

Whiplash injury can create chronic pain. Most outcome studies tell us that from 25-40 percent or so of the whiplash victims in an automobile accident will have long-term pain.

Consider the fact that over 80 percent of Americans do not properly adjust their head restraints—a task they need to do only once. It has been estimated that by simply adjusting the head restraint, injuries could be reduced by as much as 38 percent.

The head restraint should be high, at the level of the ears, and close, only an inch away from the head. The risk of serious whiplash injury is increased by a factor of from 1.6 to 6 when the head restraints are poorly positioned. Not surprisingly, tall drivers are at greater risk than shorter drivers.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety recently evaluated head restraints in 164 cars. They rated the restraints for appropriate geometry and categorized the cars as good, acceptable, marginal, and poor. Only five cars were given good ratings.

Here is a partial list of the results:

**GOOD:** Honda Civic Del Sol; Porsche 911; Volvo 850; Volvo 940; Volvo 960.

**ACCEPTABLE:** BMW 525i; BMW 540i; Mercedes E class; Mercedes S class; Mercedes SL class; Mercury Villager; Nissan Altima; Saab 900.

**POOR:** Acura Legend; Buick Century; Buick Regal; Cadillac DeVille; Chevrolet Camaro; Chevrolet Lumina; Chrysler New Yorker; Dodge Caravan; Dodge Neon; Dodge Viper; Ford Aerostar; Ford Escort; Ford Mustang; Ford Taurus; Hyundai Accent; Mazda 626; Nissan Sentra; Pontiac Firebird; Toyota Celica.

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## Arts

### STAGE Children's Theatre To Present "The Hobbit"

"In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit." So begins the well-known lines of J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit." So begins STAGE's live theatre production of that classic tale of the incredible adventures of Bilbo Baggins, a furry-footed creature who, with a wizard and 13 dwarves, set off on a not-to-be forgotten journey.

This stage adaptation by Lyle Pearsons will be presented as a vacation special on February 23rd and 24th at 7:30 p.m., and on February 24th and 25th at 2:00 p.m., at The Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

The play will be the culmination of a vacation-week drama camp for 25 eight to 15 year-olds who signed up in January to take part in this popular children's theatre company.

In addition to set building, costume construction, and publicity, the young people will be taking on the roles of dwarves, orcs, goblins, fairies, wizards, eagles, and even the dreaded dragon Smaug, who rears his fire-breathing head to protect a hoard of stolen dwarf treasure.

And who can forget the once-human but now-slimy water creature Gollum, whose magic ring is recovered by Bilbo. It is the ring's power that protects the brave little hobbit as he escapes from one danger to the next in his attempt to help his dwarf friends.

Area children participating in this exciting family theatre presentation are Joshua Lewin of Agawam; Ally Bertagnoli, Cara Dello Russo, Renate Klueh, Robert Morgan, and Brendon and Sam Pohner of Feeding Hills; Sara Sambrook of Southwick; Sophia Hartdegen of Westfield; and Jaime Ericksberg, Rachael Nisenkier, Ryan Stelzer, and Scott and Timmy Brown of Springfield.

From the Connecticut side in Suffield are Dan Cahill, Chelsea and Jackie Donahue, Ed Mack, Jaime and Tyler Pearsons, Dane Scozzari, Heather Spear, and Elissa and Phill Wood; and from Granville, Megan Banks.

Reservations for "The Hobbit" are suggested by co-producers Margie Secora and Lyle Pearsons, who have been producing children's theatre in the area for the past eight years. All tickets are only \$4 each, and seats may be reserved by calling The Red Door Ticket Service at (413) 789-2026.

*All the local news with us, each week*



**HONOR AMONG THIEVES?** Is there really such a thing? Discover the answer as the Suffield Players unearth "OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY." Call 1-800-289-6148 for tickets.

### "Other People's Money" To Open By Suffield Players February 22nd

Suffield: Can you be bought? Just what would it take for you to "sell out" your friends, your deepest convictions ... your own mother?

Those are the questions to answer in the Suffield Players' adult comedy "OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY." Author Jerry Sterner delivers five unique characters struggling to keep their ethics and fortunes intact in the face of a world bloated on immediate gratification and greed.

They're not "bad" people, they're just tempted,

and very human. And you? Watch the Players pay the piper February 22nd, 23rd, 24th, March 1st, 2nd, and 9th at 8:00 p.m. at Mapleton Hall in Suffield.

Tickets are \$5 for the first Thursday and Friday, and \$10 all other nights; with discounts for students and seniors with proper I.D., and groups of 10 or more (if reserved and pre-paid). Call toll-free: 1-800-289-6148.

### Jr. Women's Club Seeking Artisans & Crafters For Annual Arts & Crafts Festival

Crafters are sought for the Agawam Junior Women's Club's 22nd Annual Arts & Crafts Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 1st from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Festival will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. All types of artisans and crafters are invited to participate in this event.

The show will be juried and feature 80-100 exhibitors.

Admission is free and all proceeds benefit the AJWC Scholarship Fund. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available. A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display as well.

For more information or an application, call Margaret at 786-2651 or Patti at 786-6491.

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### Important Message To All Republican Primary Voters In Agawam

On Tuesday, March 5th, the Presidential Primary Day, you have an important decision to make. We urge you to vote for **ROBERTA BRUNDRETT** for Republican State Committee Woman for the Hampden Senatorial District. We know Roberta's ability, intelligence, and integrity. We know she will do the job and will do the necessary organizational work to help the Republican Party grow in Agawam and in this region.



Sincerely,  
**Hon. Christopher Johnson**  
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**Christian M. Quatrone**  
 Agawam City Councilor  
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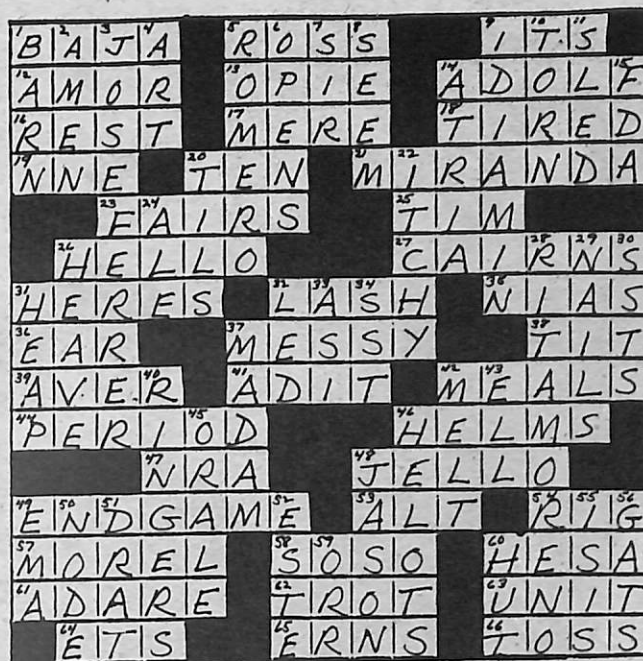
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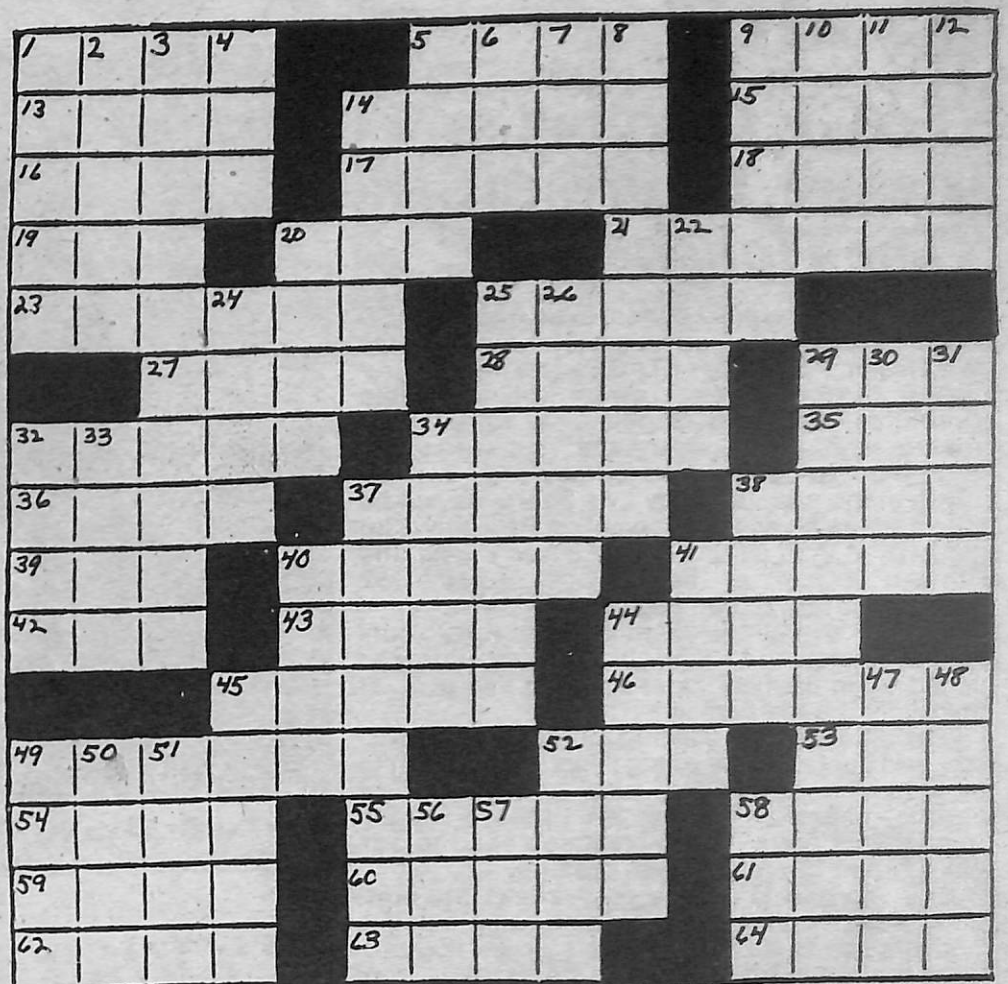
- 1 Betty Grable's assets  
5 Artist Franz  
9 Former Iranian ruler  
13 God of love  
14 Happy birthday fol-  
lower  
15 Singer Perry  
16 Fence opening  
17 Confess (2 words)  
18 Copied  
19 Fire residue  
20 Bell of baseball  
21 "That's just — tune"  
23 Not as fat  
25 Thong  
27 Talks to the ram-  
parts  
28 Dawber et al  
29 Refrain word  
32 Implied  
34 Holy men of Nepal  
35 Possessed  
36 Malignant  
37 Sophia  
38 Tony of the fairways  
39 After taxes income  
40 Tones  
41 One of the seven  
dwarfs  
42 Attempt  
43 Go up  
44 Roof overhang  
45 Sat for 5A  
46 Posture  
49 Word following ur-  
ban  
52 Female saint  
53 "— is my co-pilot"  
54 Ogle  
55 Mountain crest  
58 Show anger  
59 Lotion additive  
60 Not even once  
61 Property attachment  
62 H.S.T.'s lady  
63 Actor Richard  
64 Pismires  
**DOWN**  
1 On the up and up  
2 Clear the board

## Last Week's Solution...



- 3 Where a Bat ruled?  
4 Compass heading  
5 "— the world treating  
you?"  
6 Author Rand  
7 Singer Rawls  
8 Metropolis hero  
9 Rascal  
10 Partner of faith and  
charity  
11 American for short  
12 Coal buckets  
14 Vacation events  
20 Gentlemen for short  
22 Young lady in Dun-  
dee  
24 Brad or spad  
25 Courted (slang)  
26 Domesticates  
29 An enemy of 8D  
30 Superhighway exit  
31 "Forever and —"  
32 Omar creation  
33 State  
34 Free of restraint  
37 Girlfriend of 8D  
38 Etna output  
40 High or low follower  
41 Abhor  
44 Chemical compound  
45 Peels  
47 One of Santa's haul-  
ers  
48 Heavenly sites  
49 Thick piece of con-  
crete  
50 Soccer great  
51 Antique autos  
52 British machine gun  
56 Between sml & lge  
57 "Little —"  
58 Tampa's state

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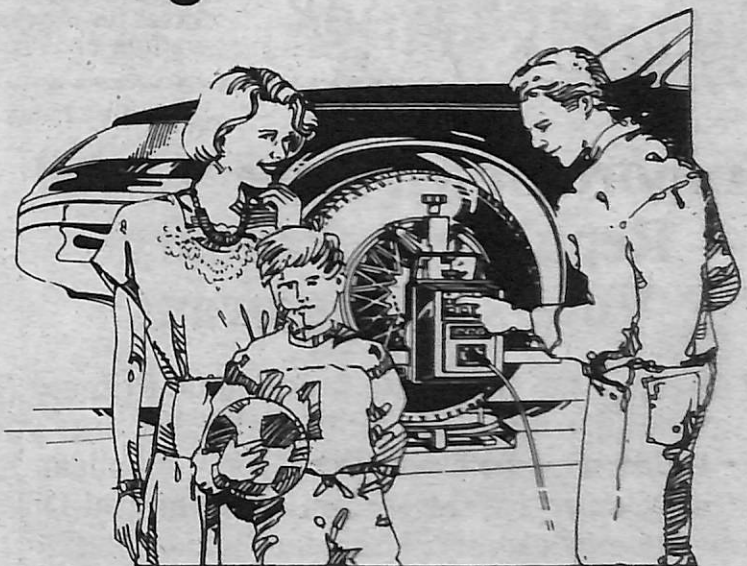
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## Education

### AHS Sends Team To Model Congress At AIC In Springfield

Agawam High School competed in the 56th annual Model Congress at American International College, January 11th-13th. The Agawam delegation, consisting of Alfred Albano (honorable mention for Best Delegate), Jason Devine, Jennifer Niedziela, and Brooke Chichakly, drafted and sponsored a Gene Therapy Act. John Ferranti is the faculty advisor for the Agawam delegation.

More than 250 high school students attended the Model Congress, the longest continuous running event of its kind in the country. The students represented 26 high schools from throughout New England and New York.

Model Congress is designed to give high school students a firsthand look at the legislative process. Each school submits legislation which is then debated and voted on during the three-day Model Congress.

Following the emergency session on Thursday night, the students held committee meetings all day Friday to determine which bills made it to the House and Senate sessions for final consideration on Saturday.

Legislation proposed at Model Congress included a reform of the current laws and standards regarding the media in the American Judicial System and a resolution to require major cosmetic companies selling within the American market to spend two percent of their annual gross sales revenue on public service announcements emphasizing positive self-image and health.

Nearly \$70,000 in AIC scholarships is awarded to winning delegates as incentive to continue their education in political science and/or government at AIC. The top delegate is awarded a full scholarship, second place is awarded a half scholarship, and third and fourth places are awarded quarter scholarships.

U.S. Congressman Richard E. Neal (D-Springfield) delivered the keynote address on Friday.

Model Congress is organized and run by AIC students, and faculty judges observed the delegates throughout the Congress, scoring and assessing oratorical and parliamentary skills of each delegate.

For more information, contact the Office of Public Relations at 413-747-6231.



AGAWAM HIGH TEACHER JOHN FERRANTI (right) and members of the Agawam High School Model Congress team. The team competed at the Annual Model Congress at American International College last month.

### Parents Encouraged To Register Kids For Kindergarten Screening In Town's Schools

Children who will be five years of age prior to October 1, 1996 are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in Agawam for the 1996-1997 school year.

Parents of children who will be eligible for

kindergarten are requested to contact the nearest elementary school as soon as possible.

Parents are encouraged to register their children prior to the last day of kindergarten screening, May 3, 1996.

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ON THE PANEL for a recent assembly at Agawam High School about the truth and consequences when teens run afoul of the law included, from left - Thomas Ginley, 1st assistant chief of probation, Juvenile Court; Alan R. Cohen, AHS guidance counselor; a former student at AHS; William R. Burke, supervisor of Probation; Cyrus Cox, Mass. State Police; Linda Galarneau, School Committee member; and Hal Etkin, defense attorney and director of the Police Academy. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## AHS Students Hear Grim Tales Of Being On Wrong Side Of The Law

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

They're the guys no parent or teen wants to meet in their professional capacity. Viewed as a team, they're the guys who nail 'em, jail 'em, and bail 'em.

At two assemblies arranged by Agawam High School Guidance Counselor Alan Cohen, local law enforcement officials gave the students a sobering view of the truth and consequences they will face should they run afoul of the law.

Cohen said his aim was to reach students before it was too late.

"I want the students to know that I'm here and Mr. Dougherty (the AHS substance abuse counselor) is here to give them a safety net before they meet one of these guys."

"These guys" were Hal Etkin, defense attorney and director of the Police Academy; Sergeant Cyrus Cox, Massachusetts State Police; William Burke, supervisor of Probation, the State of Massachusetts; and Thomas Ginley, first assistant chief of probation, Juvenile Court.

The students were an attentive audience as their guest lecturers delivered an unvarnished account of the toll wreaked on society by drugs, alcohol, teen pregnancy, physical, sexual, and domestic abuse and the price teenagers pay when their behavior brings them face-to-face with the criminal justice system.

### Real Life

After the guest speakers finished their presentations that detailed what teen offenders could expect from the criminal justice system, Cohen said, "What you heard was real. Sit in my chair for a day and you'll hear kids coming to tell me they've been sentenced to 100 hours of community service and no one wants them. You'll hear kids asking me what I can do once they've lost their license to drive. I have to tell them, it's too late."

While the adult warnings seemed to make an impression on the students, nothing hit home like the testimony of a former AHS student currently on parole for robberies committed to support a co-

caine addiction.

It was pin drop time. A hush fell over the school's auditorium when the former student said, "I went to school with some of you. Some of you know me. Some of you don't. Some of you I sold drugs to."

On parole after serving two years of a four-and-a-half year sentence for breaking and entering, gun charges, and drug charges, the former student held his audience captive as he outlined his experiences with the court system and in the county jail.

"The things you see (about prison life) in the movies are not fake," the young man said. "People are stabbed with pencils and pens. People are raped. I've seen it all."

### Cautionary Tale

The young man told a cautionary tale of how every moment of his life was controlled once he was sent to prison and how he is still forced to live his life under the control of the criminal justice system (even though he is out on parole).

"I can't hang out with my friends. They're still telling me how to run my life even though I'm not in jail," the former student said.

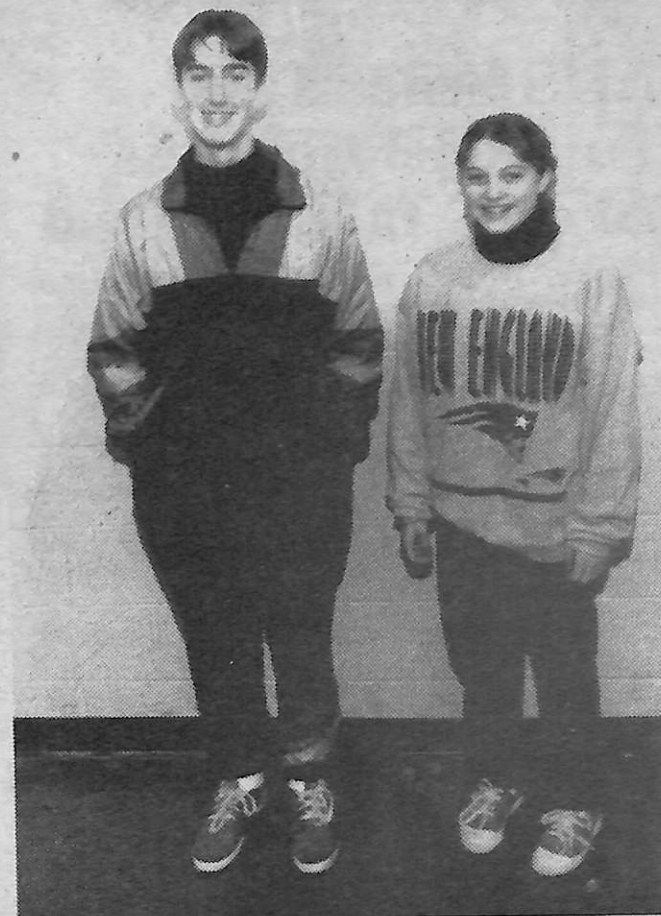
School Committee member Linda Galarneau said, "It was an excellent program and I'm hoping we can have more informational assemblies for the students. This type of education has to be offered in the schools so we don't lose these kids."

Cohen said the impetus behind the assembly was to let the students know there is help for them at the High School before it's too late and they become embroiled in the criminal justice system.

"I want the kids to know we're here to help them, not to punish them," Cohen said.

Mrs. Galarneau agreed. "It's important for the kids to know there is someone at the school who is approachable. The kids have to know there is help for them here before they get involved with the criminal justice system."

## Top Phys. Ed. Kids



PHYSICAL EDUCATION "Students of the Month" for January at the Agawam Junior High School were Justin Gorman and Aimee Piccin. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Jason Rossi Accepts Football Scholarship To Fordham U.

Jason Rossi of Agawam has accepted an offer from Fordham University for a full grant-in-aid scholarship to join its football program.

Rossi, 6'2" and 313 pounds, anchored Worcester Academy's offensive line as center during its 9-0 season, said Brendan Smith, head football coach at Worcester Academy.

Smith said several colleges besides Fordham, including Hofstra, Colgate, and Northeastern universities and the University of New Hampshire, expressed interest in Rossi. New Hampshire also offered Rossi a scholarship.

Rossi and his family live at 44 Parker St., Agawam.

## Best local news...

### Little older than the Chevy, Evie!



## Happy 40th!

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THE PLAQUE in this photo represents the new charter of the Explorer Post 185 at the Agawam American Legion. From left - Ken Connor, Troop 78 scoutmaster; Joan Bitgood, post advisor; Tom Prescott, district director, Boy Scouts; and Francisco Delgado, district executive. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## AIC Names Students On Fall Dean's List

American International College named 348 students to the Dean's List for the fall 1995 semester. Students who qualified for the Dean's List are full-time undergraduate students with a grade point average of at least 3.3 out of 4.0 points.

AIC is a private, coeducational college founded in 1885. The College offers more than 35 undergraduate programs in the Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Psychology and Education, and the Division of Nursing.

Area students named to the Dean's List are:

**From Agawam:** Barbara L. Charest, 38 Charest Lane; W.D. Hume, 1121 River Road; Michael P. LaRouche, 46 Porter Drive; Sandra A. Levesque, 12 Rowley St.; Susan A. Lovely, 21 James Avenue; Susan M. Murray, 116 Sheri Lane.

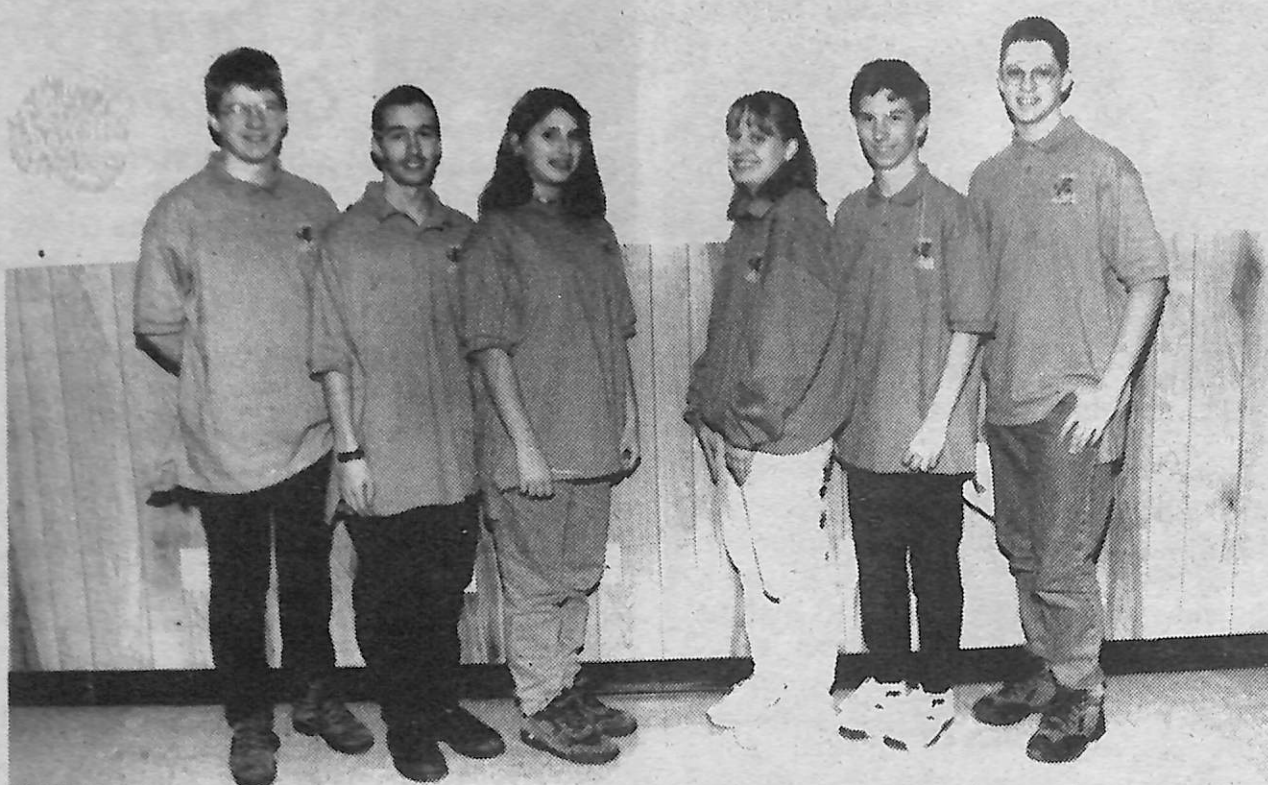
**From Feeding Hills:** Frank R. Kozikowski, 120 Cambridge St.; Helen L. Manning, 21 Oak Lane; Carol A. Meagher, 34 Sunset Terrace.

## Two Locals Receive Bucknell U. Honors

Bucknell University has released the dean's list for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 1995-96 academic year.

A student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to receive dean's list recognition. Area students who met this standard are:

**Michelle Dutton**, 163 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, daughter of Larry and Mary Dutton, and **Eric Mastrolanni**, 42 Edgewood Lane, Agawam, son of Albert and Barbara Mastrolanni.



SOME OF THE STUDENTS INVOLVED in the new Explorer Program sponsored by the Agawam American Legion are, from left - David Martin, Todd Nostin, Michelle Bitgood, Angie Coleman, Eric Robinson, and James VOOYS. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Agawam Students Participating In New Explorer Program Offered By Legion

In December 1995, American Legion Post 185 in Agawam became the charter organization for Explorer Post 185. Exploring is a program offered by the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who have completed the eighth grade through age 20.

The purpose of the Explorer Post is to provide experiences to help young people to mature at this stage in their lives to become responsible and caring adults. They gain practical experience in the career or special interest of the post, engage in activities centered on leadership, service, social, fitness, outdoor and career experience.

Explorer Post 185 is a High Adventure post. Their interests lie in backpacking, canoeing, rappelling, conservation, and camping.

On Wednesday, January 31st, Mario L'Archeveque, Commander of American Legion Post 185, was presented the Explorer Post 185 Charter by Post President Michelle Bitgood; Vice President

of Administration, Eric Robinson; Vice President of Program, Angie Coleman; and Post Advisor Joan Bitgood.

Commander L'Archeveque holds the position of Committee Chairperson of Explorer Post 185, and American Legion Post Adjutant Glenn Seymour is a member of the Explorer Post Committee. Assistant Advisors to the Post are Mike Bitgood and Paul Lovell.

Other committee members are Joyce LaViolette (Committee Treasurer), Bruce Cortis, and Ed Hamel. Todd Lovell is Post Treasurer and David Martin holds the position of Secretary. Kelly Cortis, James Vooys, Bob Hamel, and Tom Nostin are other youth members of the Post.

The Post meets every other week on Wednesday evenings at the American Legion on Springfield Street from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If you are interested or desire more information, call Michelle Bitgood at 786-2916 or join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, February 14th.

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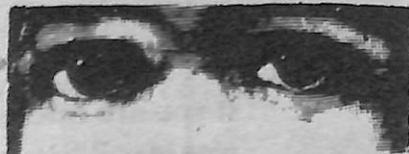
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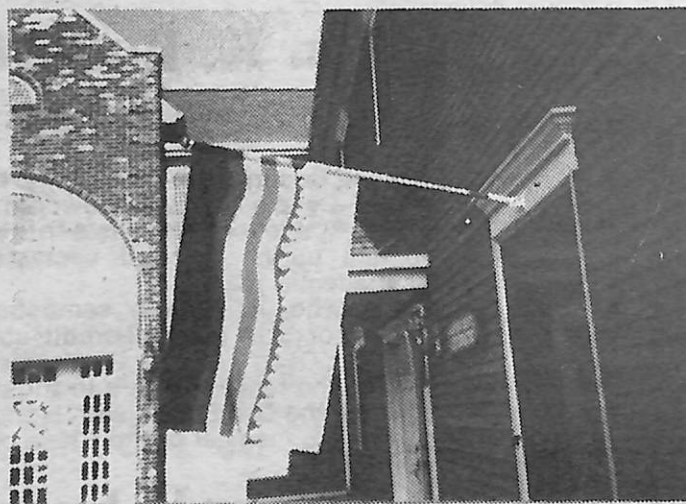
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STEPHEN FILES

## Stephen Files Of AHS Selected To Conduct All District Jazz Choir

Stephen Files, a music teacher at Agawam High School, was recently selected to conduct the Southern Maine All-District Jazz Choir.

This select group, consisting of 21 chorus members and rhythm section, presented a January concert at Gorham High School in Gorham, Maine.

Mr. Files has also been honored by being selected to present two music technology workshops at this year's Music Educators' Convention in Danvers, Mass.

Mr. Files is known for his use of technology in the classroom. He has been recognized by the Massachusetts Music Educators' Association for his leadership in creating a state-of-the-art recording studio at Agawam High School, in addition to his use of the computer in the choral rehearsal.

His jazz and show choirs have received numerous awards throughout New England, including first place awards in vocal solo and ensemble categories at the 1995 UNH Jazz Festival.

Stephen Files is a graduate of the University of Maine and the University of New Hampshire. He has been teaching in Agawam since 1973.

## Rachael White Is Named To Dean's List At Univ. Of R.I.

Rachael L. White, 36 Witheridge St., Feeding Hills has been named to the Dean's List of the University of Rhode Island for achieving a high academic standard in the 1995 Fall semester.

Qualifications for the Dean's List requires a student to carry 12 or more credits of regular letter grades in a particular semester and achieve a 3.3 quality point average, based on the grades received during the term.

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## Stephen K. Bodurtha On Dean's List

Stephen K. Bodurtha of Agawam has been named to the Dean's List at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine on the basis of scholastic achievement during the Fall semester of the 1995-96 academic year.

Students who, in a given semester, receive grades of A or B in four full-credit courses are placed on the Dean's List for that semester.

Students who receive all A's in those courses are named to the Dean's List with Honors.

Bodurtha is a member of the Class of 1999.

## Report Cards Issued At Agawam High

Report cards were issued to students of Agawam High School on Friday, February 9th.

If you should have any questions, please contact the Guidance Department at 789-1400, ext. 418.



## AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen  
Acting Director  
AHS Guidance Dept.

## Learning About Vocations...

Alan Cohen and Ann Marie Gould, Senior High Guidance Counselors, have been working diligently to set up programs where interested students meet with professionals and learn about their vocations.

On February 1st, we had a career speaker, Mr. Dan Barry from STCC, talk about landscaping, horticulture, retail nursery, and greenhouse management.

Mr. Steve Roulier, from Channel 22, will be talking about sports and television broadcasting on Wednesday, February 28th.

Energy systems dealing with heating, air conditioning, and building management systems, will be presented by Mr. Bob Bujak on March 13th. The biomedical field will be discussed as well.

On Wednesday, March 27th, Mr. Tom Fitzgerald, the ex-Springfield Police Chief and Professor at AIC, will speak about criminal justice and law enforcement.

Tentatively scheduled for May 1, 1996 will be Mr. Bruce Landon, owner and president of the Springfield Falcons Hockey Club. He will speak on careers in sports including management, training, coaching, and marketing.

Other dates will be May 1st, May 15th, and May 29th. Each speaker meets with interested students from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m.

If any adults are interested and willing to share their expertise and job experiences, please call Mr. Cohen or Mrs. Gould at 789-1400, ext. 409 or 417.

This program is working well. It is beneficial to our students, making them more aware of the world of work and assisting them in choosing future careers. This certainly helps with the school to work transition and the college-bound students.

### Important Notice

Report cards were issued at the High School, Middle School, and Junior High School on Friday, February 9th. At the elementary schools, they were issued February 2nd.

Please review the grades with your child and call the guidance counselor if you have any concerns. The high school counselors will be contacting parents of their students who are not doing well. Letters will be sent out and telephone calls will be made. By working together we hope to help your child reach his/her potential.

In the high school guidance office, we have an ongoing file filled with summer programs for interested high school students, guaranteed to nurture the mind. Please see a counselor for further information.

### GUIDANCE BULLETIN

#### College Acceptances - CONGRATULATIONS!

Andrew Markowski, St. Anselm's, UMASS; Scott Litchfield, UMASS; Alisa Harvey, UMASS; Roger Williams; Rosemarie Oppedisano, Jacksonville; Nicole Weinle, Sacred Heart; Sue DeFillipi, Univ. of Rhode Island, WNEC; Dan Houle, Quinnipiac; Karla Zambelli, Worcester State; Jason Devine, UMASS; Matthew Radwanski, WNEC; Karyn Robblee, Johnson & Wales.

Christy Dubay, Wheaton College; Jamie Scherban, Northeastern; Jason DeGray, Univ. of New Hampshire; Kara McDade, Sacred Heart, Salve

Regina; Michael Domalingue, Roger Williams, Bryant, University of Hartford, Sacred Heart; Cara Fattini, Westfield State; Mike Robinson, UMASS, SUNY/Buffalo; Kelly Liard, Westfield State, U. of Hartford; Melissa Murphy, Assumption; Elana Campurclani, Endicott; Joe Albano, Northeastern, U. of Hartford; Tim Conklin, Franklin Pierce; Chris Chechile, Nichols, WNEC; Stephanie Bean, WNEC; Alison Reseligne, Merrimack; Kristen Tierney, Northeastern; Elaina Almelo, HCC; Kim Faust, HCC; Dan Barber, North Adams State, Framingham State.

Stephanie Elg, Newbury; Nathan Frailey, Gordon; Melanie Guillemette, AIC; Jamie Thomas, U. of Rhode Island; Jason Devine, Le Moyne; Tony Russo, HCC; David Murphy, UMASS; Matthew Radwanski, UMASS; Eugene Stevens, Porter & Chester Inst.; Adrienne O'Quinn, UCONN; Jim Baldyga, U. of New Haven, Quinnipiac; Mike Perry, Westfield State, Marist; Marc Turgeon, North Country Community College; Megan Moriarty, Green Mountain; Shawn Anderson, UMASS; Nicole Weinle, Sacred Heart.

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER...

March 14th - Scholarship Fair for seniors.

April 25th - Junior Parents Night.

SAT Preparation Course - Westfield State College, Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 12th through May 2nd, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Cost: \$125.

SCHOLARSHIPS - See your counselor for more information.

**Educational Communications Scholarship Foundation** - 150 Scholarships of \$1,000 each will be awarded to recognize outstanding student achievement. All high school students who are U.S. citizens and who have taken the ACT or SAT are eligible. There is a \$2.50 application fee. Deadline: June 1, 1996.

**Edward P. Boland Scholarship** - The applicant must be a resident of the Second Congressional District of Hampden County. Awards must be based on financial need, academic merit, and extra-curricular activities and range from \$500 to \$2,000. Deadline: March 15, 1996.

**Holyoke Community College Foundation** has two scholarship programs for students who plan to attend H.C.C.

**The McIntyre Scholars Program** is open to students who plan to enroll in Arts and Science, Music or Visual Arts. Preference is given to residents of Holyoke, South Hadley, and Springfield.

**The Barowsky Scholarship** has no curriculum restrictions. Open to students who plan to attend H.C.C.

**American Legion Auxiliary Spirit of Youth Scholarship** - Open to Junior members of American Legion Auxiliary who have been members for at least three years. Applicant must have at least a 3.0 G.P.A. Deadline: March 11, 1996.

**American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship** - One \$500 scholarship and 10 \$100 scholarships will be awarded to a child, stepchild, grandchild, step-grandchild, great-grandchild, or step-great-grandchild of veterans in Massachusetts. Deadline: March 11, 1996.

**American Legion Auxiliary National President's Scholarship** - One \$2,000 and one \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded. Candidates shall be daughters or sons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion. The applicant must complete 50 hours of volunteer service within the community. Deadline: March 11, 1996.

**Paul Golden Memorial Scholarship** - This scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior who resides in Mass. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of need, determination, citizenship, and scholarship. Five \$750 scholarships will be awarded. Deadline: March 29, 1996.

## The Agawam Soccer Association

is looking for coaches.

We need coaches for Under 9 girls and Under 9 boys in the Pioneer Valley League

The Spring season begins April 13, 1996.

If you are interested in coaching, please call Steve Fox: 789-2425





## Middle School HONOR ROLL

### GRADE 6

Taryn Albano, Nicole Baginski, Kathleen Barker, Mark Bates, Jacquelyn Bennett, Amanda Blair, Eric Bland, Thomas Boisjolie, Jr., Jamie Borkosky, Amanda Brown, Danielle Brown, Michael Carmody, Rachel Caruso.

Kimberly Chmura, Erin Corbin, Michelle Cote, Matthew Couture, Renee Couture, Lauren Cressotti, Michael Crough, Robert Cullen, Adam D'Amario, Monica Davilli, Jenna Davis, Danya DeCoteau, Lucas Dempsey, Nicholas DePalma II, Michelle DePelteau.

Jennifer Dobise, Caira Dominguez, Kara Dominick, Scott Drenzek, Katie Dubay, Matthew Duplessis, Ronald Dutton, Kyleigh Egan, Kathryn Feato, Amanda Fox, Kei Fujioka, Alyson Garvey, Kara Gilhooly, Erinn Gloster, Hilary Marie Golas, Alyssa Goodrow, Sarah Hamel, Tiffany Iannarelli, Erin Jackson.

Craig Jendza, Jennifer Jutte, Michael Kelly, Sakhoon Kheumun, Brian Knight, Karl Konopka, Andrew Korney, Kimberly Landry, Jillian Lawson, Jacqueline Legrand, Matthew Ligenza, Sarah Longtin, John Lynch, Lauren Malone, Kristin Mantolesky, Denis Marchetto, Brianna Maroni, Desiree Marsili, Joshua Martel, Erika Martin, Brian McGuire, Stephen McLaughlin.

Brian Michel, Kristina Midura, Colin Murray-Graziano, Pawel Muskus, Melissa Nahajlo, Alyson Nowell, Courtney Nowill, Megan O'Krongly, Lindsey Obue, Jessica Parr, Elizabeth Perry, Shawn Poirier, Joshua Rheault, April Rondeau, Jessica Roy, Paul Ruccio, Stephanie Sadowski, Joseph Santaniello, Larry Scafuri.

Molly Schlagel, Christopher Seymour, Jenna Shea, Catherine Sheehan, Jonathan Sikes, Maureen Skehan, Nathan Skiba, Michael Skowron, John Slachetka, Julia Spear, Suzanne Svadeba, Adam Tapply, Katelyn Tierney.

Sara Tremblay, Amanda Trujillo, Marc Tully, Joseph Underwood, Joseph Wentworth, Meredith Willett, Scott Wojcik, Aaron Wyman, Carrie Yon, Lucy Emma Young, Matthew Zajdel, Leah Zordani, Jeffrey Zucco.

### GRADE 5

Zinaida Adzhigirey, Kevin Athas, Joshua Aubin, Andrea Babbini, Michael

Bachini, Kevin Baptiste, Catherine Baum, Aimee Beaudette, Rebecca Berta, Richard Giles Bertram, Thomas Bertrand, David Robert Bienia, Maciej Biskup, Ashley Blanchard, Stacy Boisjolie.

Kevin Borgatti, Dale Bouthiller, Ashley Boyle, Whitney Brown, Kelly Burgess, Sean Burke, Lindsay Carey, Rebecca Carey, Alexis Chretien, Ashleigh Chrusciel, Christin Cilimberg, Danielle Cirillo, Joseph Clark, Andrea Conte, Heather Cox, Kelly Curry, Gregory Curtis, Jenine Davignon.

Christopher Davis, Gary Dionne, Michael Dombrowski, Kelly Doyle, Daniel Stephen Drewniak, Suzanne Dudley, Chad Farrington, Jack Lynn Ferland, Jessica Ferreira, Michael Ferrigno, Kevin Fleming, Nicole Gendreau, Nicole Gessay, Daniel Gomes, Kevin Grimaldi, Kaitlyn Haglund, Ian Hamlett.

Donald Hare, Kristina Heim, Christopher Holl, Caitlin Holland, Joel Mathew Howe, Scott Sorel Howes, Jessica Hudson, Rachel Keenan, Linda Marie Kelley, Anna Kiforishina, Jocelynn Kraus, Nicholas Krolicki, Evan Mark LaBonte, Michael Lalli, Patrick Landers, Emily-Anne Lapins.

Sherri Laskowski, Justin Lepard, Jaimi Liard, Christopher Malloy, Mario Maloni, Roman Malyshevskiy, Ashley Marek, Mark Marra, Christopher Martin, Johanna Kristen Masotti, Amanda Maynard, Shannon McDyer, Eric McLaughlin, Megan Mercadante, Kerri Merriam, Marci Meunier, Vincent Moretti, Nina Murray, Ashley Mutti.

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Kristen Strole, Benjamin Sunny, Victoria Taylor, Brittany Theriaque, Michael Owen Theroux, John Tisdell, Joseph Thomas Trombley, Sebastian Verelst, Cori Ann Verteramo, Nicole Mary Watt, Michael Wilber, Celyn Williams, Tara Ashley Witte, Jeffrey Woodard, Andrew Wynne, Ryan Joseph Zaczynski, Laura Zerra.

## Agawam Jr. High's HONOR ROLL

### GRADE 7

Courtney Adamczyk, Isidro Aguinaga, Anthony Albro, Danielle Bachini, Viktor Baranov, Kara Barnes, Todd Baumann, Nicholas Beaudette, Lisa Bienia, Tiffany Blackman, Michelle Blanchard, Jenna Bodurtha, Amanda Boissonneault, Brian Borkosky, Anthony Bosini, Kyle Bousquet, Thomas Briotta, Nicholas Broska, Laura Bucalo.

Corinne Butova, William Campana, Gina Castellanos, Bianca Chase, Brady Chianciola, Timothy Chretien, Elizabeth Clark, Keegan Clark, Caitlyn Conte, Michael Cook, Timothy Corlett, Shannon Costa, Brian Cote, Heather Crescentini, Lauren DeLuca, Erin Dearing.

Michael DiDonato, Nicole Dominick, Erika Dowd, Peter Drewniak, Adam Ellsworth, Michael Federico, Tara Feeley, Heather Ferguson, Scott Fleming, Jessica Forni, Megan Gaffney, Sean Gaffney, Jill Gendron, Aaron Gilbert, Samantha Gingras, Gina Goralczyk, Sara Gregory, Ashley Guiel, Stephanie Gumlaw.

Ryan Hanley, Corey Hobbs, James Ingari, Amy Jensen, Jesse Kelleher, Lauren Kida, Michael Kirk, Melissa Knight, Joseph Lancour, Megan Landry, Benjamin Lapins, Bryan Lavin, Colleen Lawlor, Ryan Lepard, Adam Lopez, Ashlee Lorraine.

Sarah Lottermoser, Jessica Martel, A.J. Martucci, Kelly McNeish, Courtney Megatalski, Jennifer Mercadante, Rachel Morris, Rebecca Morytko, Adam Mounemneh, Jeremy Musaa, Rebecca Nacewicz, Ellen Nasiatka, Heather Newalu, Emily Norris, Lionel Nunez, Brandon Orsatti.

Stephanie Pettazzoni, Aimee Piccin, Jennifer Pietroniro, Timothy Ranstrom, Travis Reed, Jennifer Reid, Amy Richards, Ryan Richardson, Jonathan Roberts, Alissa Roy, Jamie Santos, Danielle Sienkiewicz, Keith Sullivan, Joanna Surowiec, Matthew Szoka, Jessica Viecegli, James Wisniewski.

### GRADE 8

Chad Albano, Stephen Antaya, Justin Bard, Sarah Bates, Angela Beharry, Sheri Benton, John-Paul Bitgood, Wayne Bonesteel, Sara Borden, James Borowiec, Amanda Burgess, Neil Butler, Thomas Casiello, Darcey Cavanaugh, Stephanie Ceccarini.

Laura Charest, Brian Chechile, Tracy Ciak, Elizabeth Cowan, Valerie Cross,

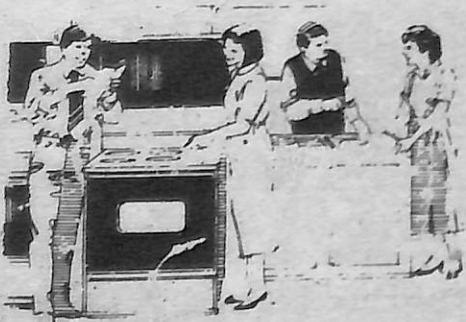
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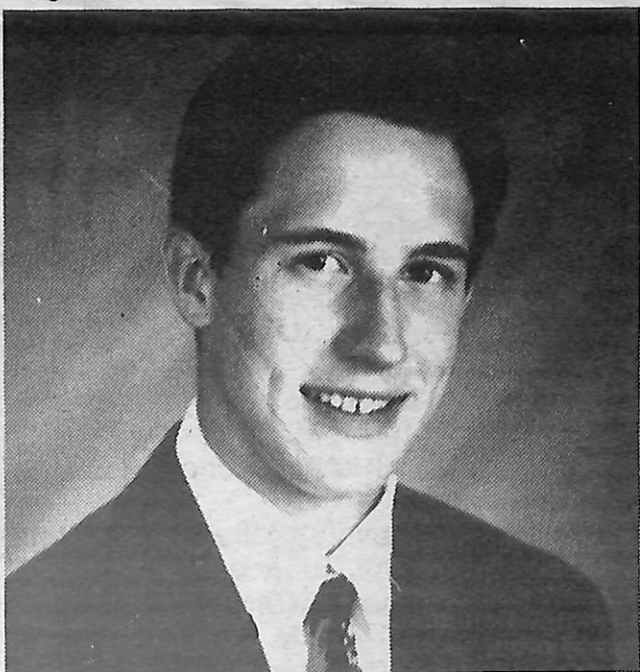
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MARCEL BLAIS

## Marcel Blais Earns Dean's Honor List At Fairfield University

The Fairfield University of College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Honor List has certified that Marcel Y. Blais has earned a place on the Dean's List for distinguished academic achievement during the semester ending December 1995.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Yvon Blais of Feeding Hills, Marcel is a freshman at the university and he was accepted as a Presidential Scholar.

He is graduate of St. Thomas Elementary School in West Springfield and St. Mary's High School in Westfield.

### HONOR ROLL - from Page 31

Caiety-Ann Curran, Nicholas D'Angelo, Allison Davis, Michelle Dise, Christine Dodge, Mary-Elizabeth Dupelle, Nicolas Duquette, Stephen Ferreira, Matthew Gaffney, Alyssa Gagnon.

Amanda Galluzzo, Julie Gazar, Pamela Gervais, Nicole Ghaname, Brian Gilhooly, Shawn Gloster, Anthony Goodrow, Justin Gorman, Kimberly Goss, Diane Griffin, Scott Harris, Jennifer Harvey, Eric Hoague, Adam Howe, Vanessa Januska.

Katherine Kilrain, Kristen Kocot, Lauren Kunkler, Brian Landry, Julie Lungarini, Jennifer Lyman, Eric Mancini, Mary Manning, John Marcotte, Danny Marsili, Michael Martin, Kerry McGeoghan, Stephanie McLane, Nicole Megatulski, Jennifer Modzelesky.

Dominic Montessi, David Moore, Ryan Morgan, Monica Moriarty, Joshua O'Neill, Amie Panek, John Pearson, Angela Petrone, Alisha Pisano, Kelli Powell, Andrea Prova, Michael Ratkiewicz, Raquel Rodriguez, Jason Rosenberg, Tiffany Scaife.

Caroline Scherpa, David Schubach, Katherine Shannon, Kerry St. Laurent, Matthew Taylor, Brad Theriaque, Edwin Torres, Ashley Turniak, Jon Ventulett, Caitlin Weisgerber, Thomas Whang, Kaitlin White, Robert Woods, Krysten Zarr.

# AHS Newspaper To Respond Against Barrage Of Criticism Against School

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Students at Agawam High School are feeling insulted by the barrage of criticisms leveled at their school by townspeople who are ignoring all the positive things going on every day. The students say they hardly recognize the school being described in letters to *The Agawam Advertiser News* and at public speak time at School Committee meetings and they plan to do something about it.

The April issue of *The MIRROR* (the AHS student newspaper) will focus on reflecting the positive side of student life at AHS and the administration's efforts at improving the school.

Feature editor B.J. Cortis said his staff will focus on articles highlighting academics, athletics, and the extracurricular activities offered at AHS.

"If you have a student entering AHS as a freshman, there's a lot available to them," B.J. said.

The students were especially upset that Acting Principal Joseph Zabielski seemed to be taking the blame for problems plaguing the school long before he took over the front office in October.

Editor-in-Chief Andy Markowski said, "Mr. Zabielski is making an effort to get things done which is more than anyone else has done. Even before the position became open, Mr. Zabielski had a plan and was talking to students (in social studies class) about what could be done better to improve the school."

The students credited Zabielski with improving the atmosphere of the school and reported a general feeling of support for their principal among the student body.

But, it wasn't always so. At first, the students resented Zabielski's efforts to enforce the school's discipline code.

### Genuinely Interested In Students

"Kids were used to getting away with so much, it was as if the students were saying how dare he do his job," News Editor Justin Casinighino said. "He's not just someone who sits in an office. He's genuinely interested in the students. He comes to all our (extracurricular) events."

The students praised Zabielski for rewriting the student guide to spell out the specifics of the discipline code and for his practice of including congratulations on student accomplishments as

part of the morning announcements.

"He recognizes the kids no one (outside their club or sport) would ordinarily know about," Dan Houle said.

"It's a boost for everyone to hear that kids are doing well. It makes us feel good," said Associate Editor-in-Chief Jeanne O'Neill.

According to the students, many of the charges aimed at AHS are exaggerated and untrue. Particularly resented is the fact that the most vocal critics don't have students at the school and are making complaints without doing anything to help solve the problems.

If people would come to the school and talk with students and staff, the students said they would get a different picture of what is going on at AHS.

"We have an award-winning band and an art and music program not comparable at any other school around," Justin said. "We have choreography and our Top 40 is unheard of anywhere else."

While acknowledging that there are problems at the school, including low scores on the 1994 state assessment testing for 10th graders, the students agreed that the blame can't be placed solely on the school and teachers. Parents and the students themselves have to take their share of responsibility.

### Parental & Student Responsibility

The students said parents are responsible for teaching morals and for motivating their children and students need to put more effort into their work.

"We want to get our point across. There's a lot of positive here. I think the principal and the teachers are doing a great job educating us with what we have (in terms of materials). When you see a teacher try hard for you, it makes you want to do better," Jeanne said.

Some of the positives *The MIRROR* staff plans to highlight include: more advanced placement courses offered than at other area schools; a multicultural club that is a rarity at area high schools; the Peer Leadership Program; the Peer Mediation Program and Interact; and the student government club operating in cooperation with Rotary International.

## Several Town Students On Dean's List At Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has announced the names of students who made the Institute's dean's list for the fall semester.

The dean's list recognizes full-time students who maintain grade-point averages of 3.0 out of a possible 4.0 and have no grades below "C."

The following area students were named to the dean's list:

**From Agawam:** Brian William Brunelle of 141 Suffield St., Agawam, a junior majoring in Biochemistry Biophysics.

**From Feeding Hills:** Christopher David Roy of 34 Forge Street, a senior majoring in Environmental Engineering; Matthew Alexander Toczko of 60 Karen Lynn Circle, a junior majoring in Chemistry; Jeffrey Wayne Henderson of 33 Tom St., a junior majoring in Biology.

Founded in 1824, Rensselaer is the nation's oldest degree-granting technological university. "U.S. News & World Report" has consistently ranked Rensselaer among the top 50 "national"

universities in the country, and has consistently listed its graduate engineering program among the top 15.

Rensselaer is an international leader in the development of new, interactive approaches to undergraduate education, and it attracts students from around the world for technology-oriented programs in five schools: Engineering, Science, Management, Architecture, and Humanities and Social Sciences.

Rensselaer is considered an international leader in a range of fields, including: electrical and computer engineering; robotics; industrial and applied mathematics; physics; chemistry; aeronautical engineering; materials engineering; lighting research; technical communication; and management and technology.

Rensselaer is an independent, coeducational, nonsectarian university with approximately 4,400 undergraduates and 2,000 graduate students.

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## Sports

# AHS Matmen Rule WMass Once Again!

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Imagine, in any sport, what it must be like to win 10 straight championships. Imagine what it must take - skill, guts, and good people supporting you at every level. You could even throw a little intimidation into the mix.

That's about the way it was last Saturday as Agawam High won its 10th straight Western Mass. wrestling title. The title was made even sweeter due to the fact that they did it at Kibbe Gym in front of the home folks. The Brownies had 235 points. West Side was second with 212. Central was third with 157.5. The Brownies weren't as dominant as in past years, but still had more than enough to win.

Agawam had the top seed in four of the 14 weight classes. They were seeded no worse than fifth in nine of those classes.

The Brownies jumped off to an early lead in the preliminary rounds due to a bunch of pinfalls.

And even though they might not be quite as dominating as in years past, the fact that 171-pounder Andrew Ingham was looking on from a special wheelchair had to help the cause.

Ingham, last year's Western Mass. and state champion, was all smiles as he continues his recovery from a broken back suffered earlier in the season.

"The pain is getting less. And this is the best therapy I could get," he laughed, observing the action before a packed house.

Agawam started out the finals the way it starts out most meets, with 103-pounder **Kevin McKay** first up and first seed in that division. He met Westfield's Matt Roos, the fourth seed.

McKay, just a sophomore, displaying the true grit that defines his young career, knew he wasn't strong enough to pin the Bomber. But McKay is at his toughest when he has to grind it out. He shot on Roos, and had him in a near fall in the second period. McKay had him 5-1 to start the third then let Roos wear himself out trying to come back from that deficit.

McKay is too good to let something like that happen. He ended up winning on a 7-1 decision.

Agawam grabbed third place in the 112's. **Justin Aldridge**, who was the third seed in that class, met the fourth seed, Joe Mathis of Pittsfield. Aldridge, when he's on, can pin just about everyone in his division. He had some problems early on. He went into the third period only up 5-4. But a near fall and riding time pulled it out for him to the tune of 10-5.

Tri-captain and one of the most popular wrestlers on the Brownies, **Chris Chechile** won his match to become the Western Mass. 125-pound champ.

Chechile was the top seed in that class. He won that privilege in a dual meet against Bridgewater-Raynham, Brockton, and Longmeadow two weeks ago.

Chechile, pumped for this one, took his opponent, third seeded James Pinder of Amherst, and slammed him. Pinder, suffering from an undisclosed injury, was taken away in an ambulance.

**Jason Jean**, the third seed in the 140 finals, lost to the top seed, John Soules of Pittsfield.

Agawam had no one involved in the four classes after that. (Ingham, of course, was out for the 171's). But defending Western Mass. and state champion in the 189's, **Jon Jacobsen** was on deck.

Jacobsen was the top seed in the class. He met Pittsfield's Lee Clapper, the number two man. Jacobsen won it, 11-3.

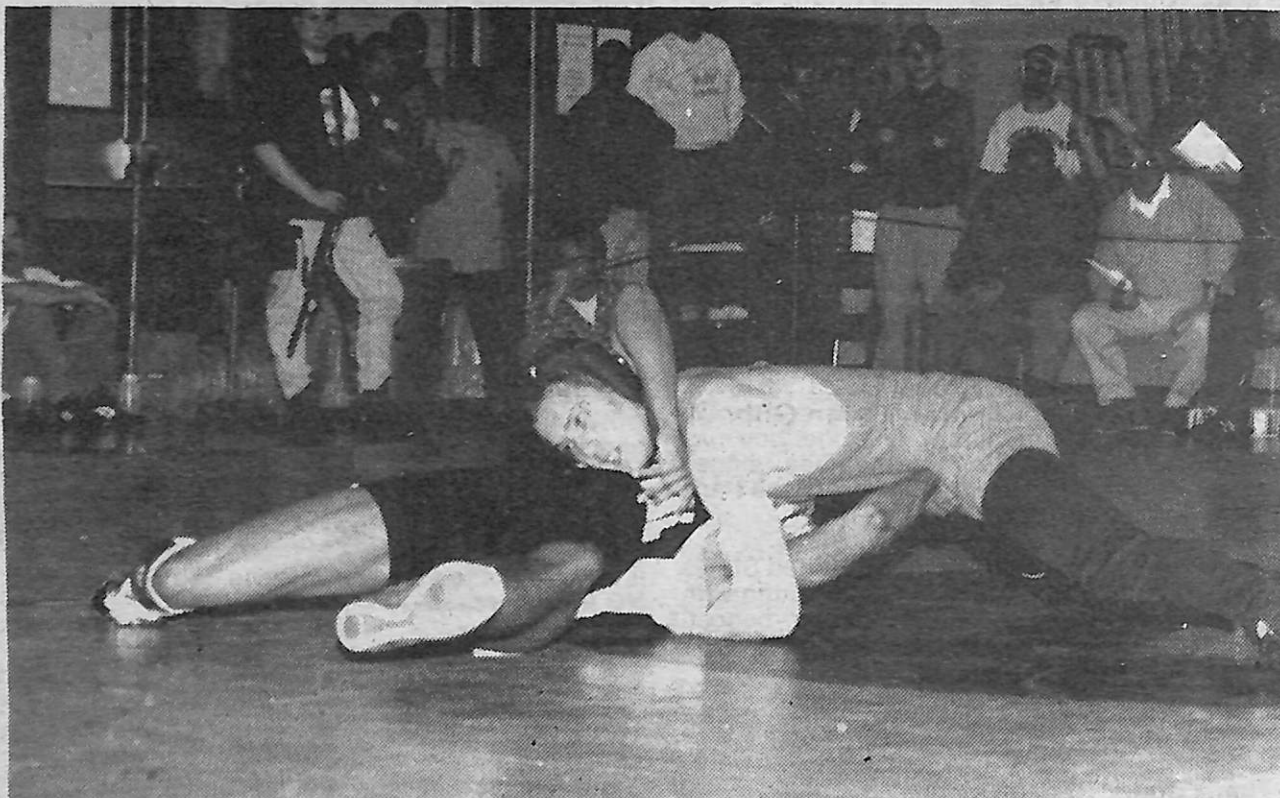
### Another Guy On The Road To A State Title

Jacobsen has little trouble with most opponents. Clapper was just another guy on his road to another state title. Jacobsen, who always wrestles with his mind first, then follows it up with his physical skills, studied Clapper carefully.

This was almost like McKay's match. Jacobsen



**A PRESEASON PICTURE** of senior class members of the Agawam High varsity wrestling team. Back row, from left - Kirk Parker, Jon Jacobsen, Matt Gordon, Tony Russo, Mike Loguidice, Mike Vinesett, and Dave McCarthy. Front row - Eugene Stevens, Eric Johnson, Justin Aldridge, Mike Pessolano, Chris Chechile, and Andrew Ingham. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**JUNIOR DAN DIALESSI** works over an opponent in an early round match at the Western Mass. Wrestling Meet last Saturday at Agawam High. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

instinctively knows when he can beat someone without a pin.

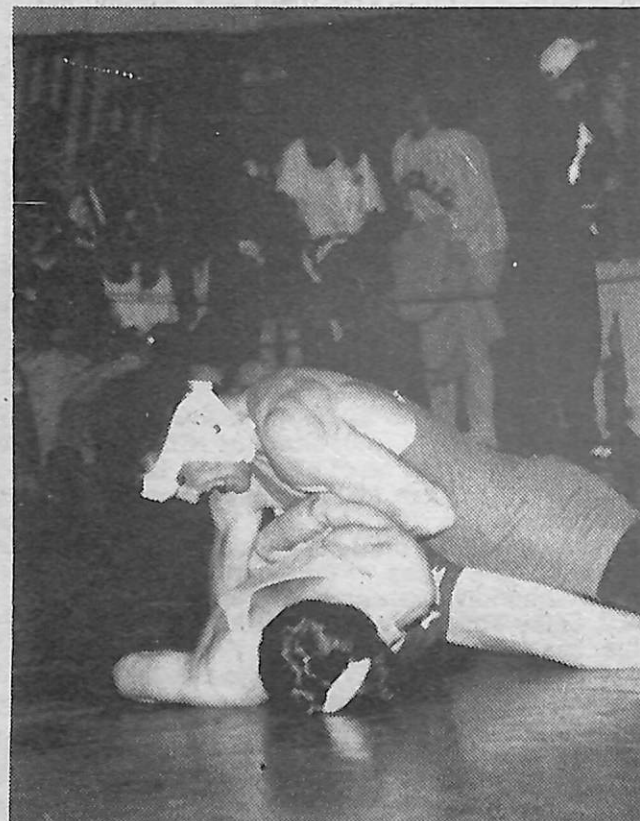
Clapper scored his points on an escape and a reversal. Jacobsen had him on two near falls, two takedowns, and a reversal.

Agawam's next opportunity for points was in the heavyweight division. It pitted top seed **Derek Parker** against Central's Torrel White. White was the second seed.

On January 10th, Parker beat White, 4-2 in a meet at Central. They were both linemen on their respective football teams. The thing is this—Parker goes about 225. White checks in at 275.

White pinned Parker with a little over a minute to go in the first period. One thing about heavyweights, the last thing you want is the other guy to get the advantage and drop on top of you. White got that advantage and did just that. Parker is strong. But it's tough to move mountains, especially when they are right on top of you.

Agawam now moves on to the state tournament, at Brockton this weekend, to defend its 1995 state title.



**A DETERMINED JASON JEAN** in action in the 140-pound division for Agawam High. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Cathedral Upsets Brownie Girls' Hoop

Cathedral High School avenged an 18-point loss to the Agawam Brownies last month and upset the locals, 72-64 on Tuesday night at Cathedral High.

The loss snapped a 12 game winning streak for the Brownies, who are now 6-1 in the Valley Wheel but still in first place. The Brownies were ranked third in Western Mass. in Division I this week and are hoping for a high seed in the upcoming Western Mass. Tournament.

Freshman Barbara Maloni and sophomore Kristen Patterson led the Brownies in scoring in the loss.



## Sportsmen's Corner

—By Bill Chiba—

1003 No. Westfield St.  
F.H., MA 01030



Easthampton Rod and Gun Club will hold an ice fishing derby from February 17th at 6:00 a.m. to February 18th at 3:00 p.m. with more than \$1,200 in cash prizes for the heaviest small and large mouth bass, catfish, perch, pike/muskie, pickerel, bullhead, crappie, bluegill, and carp.

There is a \$5 entry fee and there is a door prize drawing. Tickets may be purchased at the club; Pioneer Sports Center on Damon Road, Northampton; Valley Sport Center, Northampton; and Oxbow Sports, East Street, Easthampton.

### HUNTER EDUCATION CLASS

A free hunter education course will start February 27th at 6:30 p.m. at the Florence VFW on Meadow Street. It will run from 6:30-9:00 p.m., February 27th and 29th, March 5th, 6th, 12th and 14th. Call (508) 792-7434 or write Hunter Ed., P.O. Box 408, Westminster, MA 01473-0408.

The completion certificate is given to youths 15 and older. A letter of completion is given to youths aged 10-14, meeting out-of-state licensing requirements.

\*\*\*

The Archery Trade Show is to be held on January 17-19, 1997 at the Kentucky Fair & Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky.

In making the announcement, Dick Lattimer, President of the AMO, had news for bowhunters. He said, "Our new trade show will return 100 percent of the net proceeds from the show to our 'Save Our Heritage' fund to promote and protect the business and sport of bowhunting and recreational archery."

Under the "Save Our Heritage" fund, the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America has received over \$130,000 in grants, which, among other activities, provide a major source of funding for the Bowhunter Defense Coalition (BCD).

The WLFA-led BCD takes the lead in repelling attacks against bowhunting around the nation. Central to the BCD is a cadre of 200 WLFA bowhunter activists who are graduates of the WLFA's media and government relations seminars.

Lattimer said that 166 archery businesses, including 18 bow manufacturers, 11 archer/bowhunting and equipment/product companies, signed up to attend within a few short weeks of the trade show announcement.

### Bear Attack in Washington State

While the Humane Society of the United States continues to threaten to repeal bear hunting with dogs and other bait, as well as cougar, bobcat,

and lynx hunting, two Sultan, Washington teens were confronted and attacked by an adult male black bear weighing an estimated 250-300 pounds.

A 14 year-old young girl suffered bites to her left thigh and right calf. Washington wildlife officials turned to Washington State Hound Council President Ted Orr for help. Orr, with his team of dogs, successfully tracked and killed the bear as it attacked both Orr and the dogs. Like California's problems with Cougar, this type of incident could become more common if bear hunting is banned or curtailed by voters.

The anti's, headed by Tsongas of Boston, are responsible for the bill to be acted upon by Massachusetts voters in November's elections, to ban hunting bear, wildcats, etc. WE are overrun with bears now. To ban hunting them and regulating the birth rate is stupid.

The anti's want the vote to manage our wildlife in Massachusetts instead of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Department with trained biologists.

In the same bill, the anti's want to enlarge the seven-member board of control with anti hunters by changing the rules for being put on the board. Present rule for getting on the board is a stipulation that the person must have had a sporting license for five years before applying.

The hunters and fishermen, since 1937 have been the sole contributor of monies through taxation of 11 percent on equipment, clothing, etc. used in enjoying their sport. This year, the state of Massachusetts will receive \$2 million of tax collection from the federal government for operation of the Division.

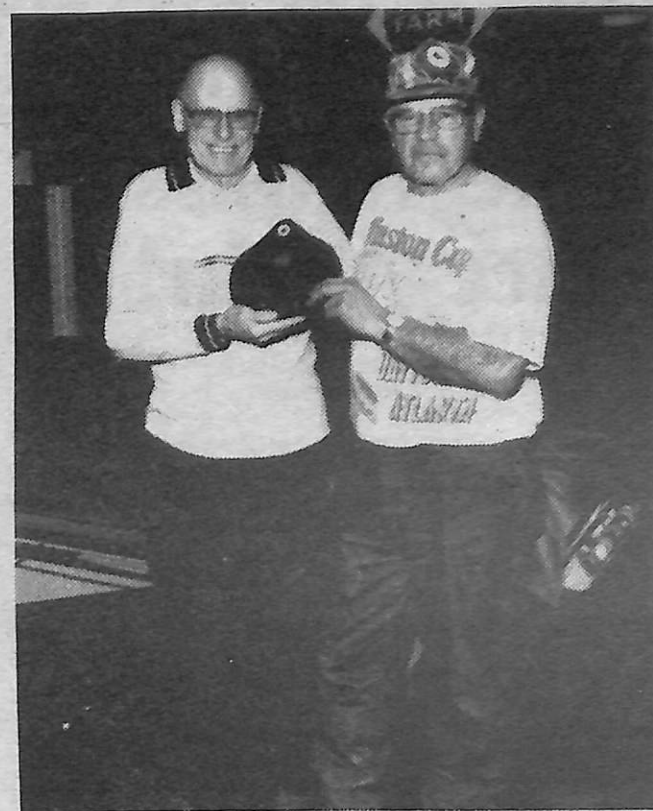
The anti's want hikers, bike riders, snowmobile riders, ATV operators, golfers, and other non-users to operate and control the million or so acres that sportsmen have bought and received control of from wills by people that desired to keep the land and woods opened to hunting and fishing.

If the anti's have their way, the state will become overrun with small game that carry the rabies. The coyote will be so numerous that we will have the same problem of children being attacked in their backyards by starving animals. To control wildlife so that the human being and they can get along together in this shrinking land space, a trap and hunting has been proven to be the only control strong enough to do the job.

A vote against hunting and fishing is only a mark on a paper. Used foolishly, it can be the cause of rampant rabies, lyme disease, and others (that have not shown up yet). Ask someone that has had to take the cure for rabies. Their story will make you shrink in your shoes of the pain they had to go through.

If you haven't got coverage by insurance for the disease, prepare to pay thousands of dollars for the cure. The anti's could care less about the above, as long as they have their emotional way. It is about time to stand up to these people and vote **NO in November**.

## Congrats, Bill!!!



OUR MIGHTY HUNTER, Bill Chiba (left), was honored by the Agawam Mawaga Sporting Club on January 30th. Pictured with Bill is Dom Tangredi. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



## Ask Dr.

by Stephen Jacaprarro,  
D.M.D.

1379 Main Street,  
Agawam, MA 01001  
(413) 786-8177

## HOW TO WHITEN?

**Q.** What are the advantages of going to the dentist for tooth whitening, compared to the use of do-it-yourself kits?

**A.** With dentist-supervised whitening, individual attention pays off in safety, comfort and results. To start with, the condition and configuration of one person's teeth and gums differ from anyone else's. The dentist evaluates the distinctions and shapes the whitening process to individual needs. For example, the dentist customizes a mouth tray to hold the whitening agent in contrast to the "one kit fits all" approach.

There are other considerations. Unsupervised home use of whitening agents has raised questions about potential damage to teeth, gums and even certain types of dental fillings. Before you experiment with such products, consult the dentist for a professional opinion.

## THE MINERALIZING CYCLE

**Q.** What is meant by demineralizing?

**A.** It's part of the process leading to tooth decay. First, constantly forming plaque sticks to the teeth. Bacteria in plaque create acids which attack the tooth surface. This causes demineralization of the enamel, making it porous—dotted with tiny holes. If demineralization is allowed to continue, cavities develop. But the process sometimes is reversed, by remineralization. Minerals in saliva help the reversal to a limited extent. Fluoride strengthens the remineralization process.

During a periodic checkup the dentist looks for signs of demineralization (as well as cavities that have already formed). If such signs are detected, regular use of a fluoride toothpaste and a fluoride rinse may be recommended in order to spur remineralization. At a future appointment, the dentist can determine if demineralization has been reversed.

Brought to you as a public service by Dr. Stephen R. Jacaprarro, D.M.D., 1379 Main St., Springfield, MA 01001, (413) 786-8177.

## Daggett Gymnasts Host Qualifying Meet

Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics of Agawam hosted its first Local Qualifying Meet at the newly expanded complex on February 4th.

Sixty-three girls competed overall, with guest gymnasts from Walker's, Northeast, Pioneer, Whip City, and GLC. This meet was a proud moment for the girls' team and their coach, Joe Saimeri. The girls competed at levels 5 through 10.

**\* Competing at Level 5 (Ages 7-8):** Abby Hazen scored 8.0 on Vault. Michelle Guillerault scored a high 8.8 on Floor with an All-Around (AA) 33.3. Rachel Humphrey—high of 8.5 on Beam and an AA 32.5. Desiree Boucher scored a consistent, All-Around 30.5. Jan Carlson earned 9.1 on Vault, and AA 33.6.

**\* At Level 5 (Ages 9-10):** Katie Farley had a 9.0 on Bars and AA 34.3. Kellyn Palladino's high individual was 8.6 on Bars and AA 32.7. Leigha Hancock scored a 9.4 on Bars, rounding out to an AA 35.7. Mary Kate Zajac earned two 8.7's on Beam and Floor, with an AA 34. Marjorie Moriarty had an 8.4 on Floor, and AA 31.8. Christine Hill had a high individual Bars routine of 8.6, and AA 32.7.

**\* At Level 5 (Ages 11-12):** Lisa DiRosa earned a Floor score of 8.5, and AA 33.6. Rebecca Langlands had 9.1 on Beam, and AA 33.8.

**\* At Level 6 (Ages 10-11):** Shannon DelGiudice had a high individual score of 8.7 on Vault, and AA 32.9. Emily Sharp had 8.9 on Vault and AA 32.4 in this, her first meet at Level 6. Paula Ballantine was Fourth on Bars (8.7), Second on Beam (8.8), and was AA 35.3, her best score in a meet to date.

Lissa Bramley overpowered everyone in her age group at the meet with First Place on Bars (9.0), First Place on Beam (9.4), Second Place on Floor (9.1), and First Place All-Around with a medal-winning 36.3. Andrea Babbin was Lissa's runner-up as All-Around Second Place winner (35.9), with individual First on Floor (9.2), Seconds on Vault (9.4) and Bars (8.8), and Fourth on Beam (8.5).

Devon Ehret earned a Fourth Place (9.4) on Vault, and had AA 33.0. Brionne Lancour won

Third Place on each individual event (9.3, 8.8, 8.7, and 9.0 on Vault, Bars, Beam, and Floor), and All-Around Third Place with a score of 35.8. Karen Christoffersen was First Place winner on Vault (9.5), Fourth on Floor (8.9), and AA Fourth Place winner (35.4).

**\* At Level 6 (Ages 12-13):** Rebekah Humphrey was First on Vault (8.7), Second on Beam (8.0), Third on Bars and Floor (7.1 and 8.1), with an AA 31.9. Sara Tremblay was All-Around First Place winner (34.1), and First Place winner in Floor (8.5), Bars (8.6), and Beam (8.4), and Second on Vault (8.6).

**\* At Level 7 (Ages 12-14):** Erica Gildersleeve won First Place honors in all four events (Vault, 9.5; Bars, 8.4; Beam, 8.5; Floor, 8.0) and All-Around First (34.4). Elizabeth Clark scored a 9.3 on Vault, and won Second Place All-Around.

**\* At Level 8 (Ages 13-14):** Lella Sekkal was First Place winner in all individual events (Vault, 8.45; Bars, 7.6; Beam, 8.3; Floor, 7.7) and All-Around winner with a 32.05.

**\* At Level 9 (Ages 12-13):** Brooke Giguere had a high score on floor with an 8.1. Amy Reynolds was Second Place winner in Floor (8.4), Third Place winner in both Vault (8.2) and Beam (7.95), and All-Around Second Place winner (31.85).

Kadee Bramley won high honors in all events and highest all-around. She was Fourth on Vault (8.0), Second on Bars (7.75), Second on Beam (8.35), First on Floor (8.75), and First Place winner on All-Around with a 32.85.

Brynne Kennedy, because of an injury, competed in only two events. However, she won First Place in both (Bars, 8.05; Beam, 8.5).

**\* At Level 9 (Ages 8-11):** Jaime Scott-Smith competed in her division uncontested, and came in First with her AA 33.65.

**\* At Level 10 (Ages 13-14):** Michelle Germano won three individual Firsts on Vault (9.1), Bars (8.7), and Floor (8.75). Her 33.95 All-Around score earned her Third Place.



## Brownie Girls Spank Upstart Amherst For 12th Straight Win

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Last Friday night, Amherst was not destined to derail the Agawam High girls' basketball team. The Hurricanes (0-14, 0-6) were the ones blown away in a 54-31 rout at Kibbe gym.

As the Brownies drive for another Valley Wheel crown, they saw their win streak grow to a dozen. The last time they lost was way back on December 27th—52-50 at the hands of West Side. The Brownies are currently 12-2 and 6-0 in the league.

How bad was it? Well, some folks didn't realize that because of the Western Mass wrestling tournament, the game would start at 6:00 p.m. When they walked in, they must have thought the scoreboard was broken. You see, the score was 33-3, Agawam, with 1:20 to go in the half.

Agawam started it out running. But that didn't last long. As Brownies Coach Lou Conte noted, "Amherst is young. I wasn't going to run it up."

Conte is a class guy. He didn't. Ten of the 11 girls on the Agawam roster scored. Sophomore Kristen Patterson has 19, including a three to go along with five rebounds. Senior Courtne Hyland had two threes and eight points. She had four boards.

Agawam went into a zone towards the end of the first half. Amherst, unglued, tried to shoot over it. The problem was—Amherst couldn't shoot over anything. They went 1-14 (a three-pointer) in the first half along with 3-6 from the line. The Hurricanes were in man-man most of the way.

**"Taking Advantage" Of Amherst's Weaknesses**  
Agawam, which does what it always does (take advantage of its opponents' weaknesses), drove on the smaller Hurricanes. Man defenses have lanes. Good teams usually find them, especially wish dish-off people like Patterson and freshman Barbara Maloni (3 points, 1-3, 5 assists, 2 rebounds). They'll tighten you up faster than a lemon in your mouth.

Plus, Amherst is a small team. They don't block out all that well. Pia Bertone-Gross (9 boards), Sarah Cote (6 boards), and Jamie Thomas (6 boards) simply took charge.

At 10:28 of the second half, Agawam led, 35-14. Amherst was now just shooting it up.

Agawam had 20 turnovers in the game. Fifteen of them came in the second half. It had to do with the fact that they just wanted it over. They'd lost their focus.

As Conte said, "Amherst is young." They got a lesson Friday night.

## Loss To Lancers Leaves Brownies Still Hunting For Tourney Berth

by Dave Rollins  
News Editor

Things are getting interesting for the Agawam High boys' basketball team—maybe a little too interesting. A tough 70-64 home loss to Longmeadow High on Tuesday night means the Brownies will have to win two of their final three games to make the Western Mass tournament.

Agawam goes to 8-9, 3-4. Longmeadow (10-7, 4-3) is in the tournament.

As it has been all year for Agawam, this game was another foot race. And the Lancers, out to avenge their overtime loss to the Brownies a few weeks back, were happy to match speed for speed.

It started out with both teams in a man defense and little thought of a half-court offense. As it has been lately, Joe Albano (20 points, 4 rebounds) fired up the action early on by getting the Brownies running. He got help from Phil McGeoghan (14 points, 7 rebounds). There was also a spirited battle for the boards between the Brownies' Dave Murphy (2 points, 6 rebounds), Jay Malone (6 rebounds), and the Lancer big men, Chris George (12 points, 7 rebounds) and Taylor Blinn (13 points, 7 rebounds).

Both clubs, because of the pace, were turning it over early. Agawam would have 21 for the game, as opposed to the Lancers' 16.

Longmeadow guard Tim Allen (16 points, 7 assists, 3 rebounds), was running his offense with some heads-up passing when the Brownie defenders tried to double him.

At the 13:00 mark, Agawam led 6-5. A Chris Bitzas (6 points on 2 threes, 3 rebounds) three after that made it 9-5, Brownies. The Lancers came back to 11-9 at the 10:40 mark.

Three straight Agawam turnovers and nine points off of them put Longmeadow up, 18-11 with 8:17 left in the half. Longmeadow would end up with a 14-0 run until the 7:40 mark to go up 23-11.

The Brownies fought back grimly. And thanks to some good shooting by Albano, Nick Dion (9 points, 5 rebounds) made it 26-20 with 4:37 to go.

But they just couldn't seem to sustain any momentum. They went into their press and began doubling down. That left the Lancer perimeter shooters free. They made the most of the opportunity, putting them up 31-22 with 3:00 to go.

The Lancers were also penetrating and dishing off for open shots. Agawam was trying to do that, too. But they weren't having much luck at it. That situation caused 11-year Brownie Coach Mike Martin to be beside himself for most of the half.

Halftime saw the Lancers up, 36-26.

**What AHS Needed To Do...**

There was one prime thing Agawam would need to do when the second half started—tighten up its transition defense. Because, even when the Lancers were blowing their shots, they were gaining confidence in the way they were playing.

From the 13:45 mark to 9:41, the Brownies outscored Longmeadow, 12-0, thus coming back to trail by a point, 42-41.

Bitzas canned a three at 8:24 as both teams upped the tempo even more. The score was now tied at 46. But once again, a combination of turnovers and sour luck frustrated the Brownies from putting away the Lancers.

Allen got a timely three. McGeoghan got fouled on a hoop and got three the hard way. Longmeadow still led 51-50 with 7:20 left.

The Lancers went up 55-50 at the 6:20 mark. They were still penetrating, which helped their cause.

McGeoghan hit a two at 2:20 to bring the Brownies back again tantalizingly close at 59-58. Then Longmeadow, with an eye on the clock, started to slow things down.

With 40 seconds left, Longmeadow led, 63-60. Agawam had to foul. They did and it was the wrong guy—Allen. Over the last 30 seconds, they fouled him three times. He hit 5-6.

Agawam's next game is home against Comp on Friday night. They finish out the season next week at home against Chicopee on Tuesday evening, and on the road at Amherst on Thursday.

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## Four Teams Battling For Top Spot In Tri-Parish Bowling

The top four teams all faced each other on a wild and wacky Monday (February 12th) at the Agawam Bowl as the Tri-Parish Bowlers threw plenty of smoke on the lanes on Walnut Street Extension.

When it was over, St. Anselm (24 wins) and Catholic University (24 wins) were in a virtual dead-heat for first place, while St. Louis (23 wins) and Boston College (22 wins) hung right in there.

In the big battle of the night, St. A's faced CU. CU won the first two matches as leadoff TAMMY VOGEL (233, 75.31 in Women's C) and second roller MARY THOMAS (289, leader in Women's A at 98.21) demonstrated their bowling prowess.

But St. A's came roaring back as third roller YVONNE CHARTIER (359, 104.29 in Women's AA) and Captain "Luscious" LOU MULDER (360, 110.23 in Open Class) were huge winners. TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (315) gave a decent effort vs. Yvonne, while anchorman BILL GRIFFIN (286, 101.47 in Men's AA) sunk fast under the intense pressure of "Luscious" Lou.

\*\*\*\*\*

The next match between St. Lou and BC was just as lively although the scores were somewhat drab. Winners for St. Lou were leadoff AUDREY PHILLIPS (256-253 over DAVE ALDRICH; Audrey leads the Women's C at 85.38), KIM LACROIX (289, 93.14 in Women's B), and Captain GLEN ADAMS, a 348-284 conqueror over a terribly disappointed "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (103.47 in Men's AA). Mr. Adams is the top dog in Men's AA at 107.49.

The only winner for BC was third roller LARRY FORTIER (275, 96.2 in Men's A).

In the next match, seventh place St. Mary's (13½ wins) faced eighth place Holy Cross (12½ wins). And St. Mary's had a fine night, too, as leadoff RITA SCOTT (287, 83.50 in Women's C), VENETTA SNYDER (283, 89.1 in Women's A), and Captain JOHN LONCRINI (318, 98.38 in Men's AA) all were winners. John-Boy defeated a startled HC Captain DEBBIE POIRIER by four pins (314, 106.13 in Open Class; second best for all of the women).

The only winner for HC was third roller SUE GRIFFIN, 284-282 over FRANKIE CERPOVICZ (Sue rolls at a 99.39 clip in Women's AA).

\*\*\*\*\*

Next up was a match between fifth place Notre Dame (20 wins) and sixth place St. Michael (17 wins). And for St. Mike's, it was a clean sweep indeed.

Winners were leadoff MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (275, 92.15 in Women's A), JEAN BOUNICONTI (314, 93.24 in Women's AA), VI MASSOIA (281), and Captain JERRY ALLEN, a big 340-305 victor over the top women's roller in the league, none other than FLO ROCHFORD (107.13 in Women's AA). Allen rolls at 110.1 in the Unclassified category.

Last place Fordham (11 wins) had the bye week and the scores were as follows: LINDA TOBEY (250), CORI NAPOLITAN (254), TERRY CERPOVICZ (299), and "Jollie" OLLIE MULDER (344), the top roller in the entire league at a 111.4 clip (but his brother, "Luscious" Lou, is right on his tail).

**Check our classified**

## Games And Lanes Indoor Soccer League Standings (As Of 2/11/96)

**U-12 BOYS**  
Agawam Dynamos  
North Branch  
Westfield  
Agawam/Hearn  
Hampshire United

W L T P  
5 0 0 10  
4 1 1 9  
3 2 0 6  
0 4 1 1  
0 5 0 0

**U-14 BOYS**  
Berzerkers  
Tube Products  
Agawam Express  
Blue Devils  
Revolution  
Agawam Intown  
Agawam Vipers

W L T P  
5 0 0 10  
4 1 0 8  
3 1 0 6  
2 2 1 5  
1 3 1 3  
0 3 2 2  
0 5 0 0

**U-12 GIRLS**  
Berkshire  
Agawam  
Longmeadow  
Holyoke

W L T P  
4 0 0 8  
2 2 0 4  
1 3 0 2  
1 3 0 2

**U-17 BOYS  
HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION**  
Holyoke S.C. Green  
Agawam Juniors  
Agawam Intown  
Milne El Fuego  
Holyoke S.C. Gray  
Westfield Bombers

W L T P  
5 0 0 10  
4 1 0 8  
2 2 1 5  
2 3 0 4  
1 3 1 3  
0 5 0 0

## Women's Self Defense Clinic On February 22nd At Fitness First

Women can learn how to protect themselves on Thursday, February 22nd, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Fitness First in Feeding Hills. It will be the first in a series of four seminars entitled "Women's Self Defense Clinic" featuring Grandmaster Mike Wollmershauser.

Three years ago, Fitness First offered this seminar to a packed audience. The club anticipated this seminar to be equally as popular, as women seek new (and old) ways to protect themselves.

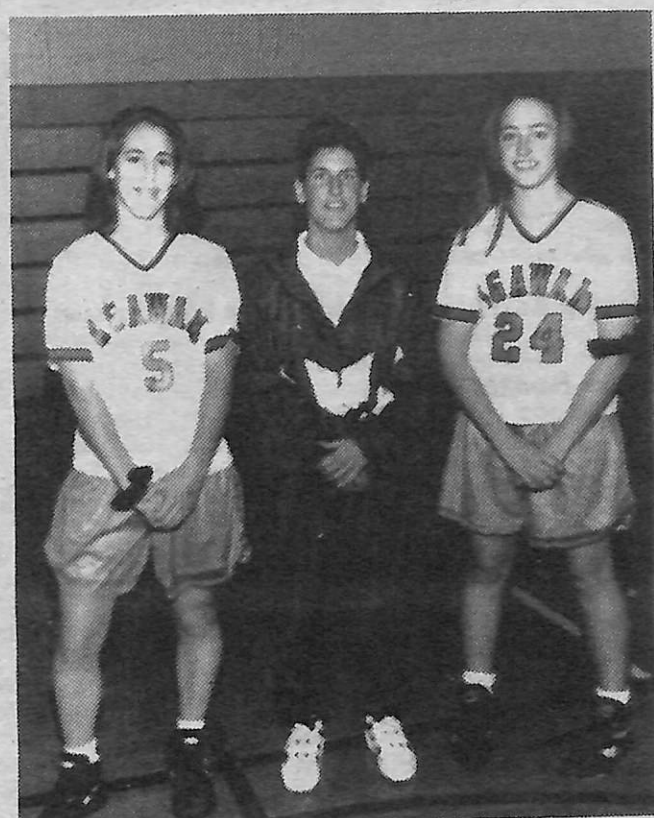
This clinic will be the first in a series of four clinics to follow to show women the importance of self defense and how they can protect themselves.

Specific topics women will learn will be how to defend themselves, what easy physical techniques she can use to ward off an attacker, and what precautions she should use. All women are strongly urged to attend this seminar before a difficult situation presents itself to you.

There is a \$3 per person fee that will be donated to the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter. Call Fitness First at (413) 786-1460 or stop by the club at 60 North Westfield Street in Feeding Hills to register. Preregistration is required, as seating is limited.

*For all the hometown news, you turn our pages every week - AAN*

## AHS Hoop Captains



CAPTAINS OF THE 1995-96 Agawam High girls' freshman basketball team with their coach, Lynda Kunasek (center). At left is Franca Bonavita and at right is Lindsay Mason. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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# Agawam AA Basketball Standings

## BOYS' 8-10 LEAGUE

### NATIONAL DIVISION "EAST DIVISION"

|                  | W | L |
|------------------|---|---|
| Polish Club      | 5 | 0 |
| Alvin's          | 3 | 2 |
| Gino's Packaging | 3 | 2 |
| JMC Graphics     | 0 | 5 |

### "WEST DIVISION"

|                   | W | L |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Hy-Tek            | 4 | 1 |
| CHH Engraving     | 2 | 3 |
| Provin Mt. Farms  | 2 | 3 |
| Fran's Restaurant | 1 | 4 |

### AMERICAN DIVISION "NORTH DIVISION"

|                      | W | L |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Valenti's Restaurant | 5 | 0 |
| Colonial Funeral     | 3 | 2 |
| Pignatere Texaco     | 1 | 4 |
| Westfield Savings    | 0 | 5 |

### "SOUTH DIVISION"

|                | W | L |
|----------------|---|---|
| Agawam Police  | 5 | 0 |
| Agawam Lions   | 3 | 2 |
| Village Lounge | 2 | 3 |
| UNICO          | 1 | 4 |

## BOYS' 10-12

|                   | W | L |
|-------------------|---|---|
| AMERICAN DIVISION | 5 | 1 |
| Corner Deli       | 5 | 1 |
| Fran's Restaurant | 5 | 1 |

Briggs & Starr Ins. 3  
Valenti's Restaurant 2  
E.B.'s Specialty Chicken 0

## NATIONAL DIVISION

|                  | W | L |
|------------------|---|---|
| JMC Graphics     | 6 | 0 |
| Movie Mart       | 5 | 1 |
| Auth Fuels       | 2 | 4 |
| Provin Mt. Farms | 2 | 4 |
| Agawam Opticians | 0 | 6 |

## BOYS' 13-15

|                        | W | L |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Westfield Savings Bank | 6 | 0 |
| Provin Mt. Farms       | 5 | 1 |
| Agawam Auto Sales      | 4 | 2 |
| Fran's Restaurant      | 1 | 5 |
| JMC Graphics           | 1 | 5 |
| Polish Club            | 1 | 5 |

## 8-10 GIRLS

|                        | W | L |
|------------------------|---|---|
| AMERICAN DIVISION      | 3 | 2 |
| Westfield Savings      | 2 | 3 |
| Fran's Restaurant      | 1 | 4 |
| Agawam Advertiser News | 1 | 4 |
| T.J. Maxx              | 1 | 4 |

|                   | W | L |
|-------------------|---|---|
| NATIONAL DIVISION | 4 | 1 |
| UNICO             | 4 | 1 |
| Village Lounge    | 4 | 1 |

Colonial Funeral 4  
Agawam Lions Club 1

## 11-13 GIRLS

|                   | W | L |
|-------------------|---|---|
| AMERICAN DIVISION | 5 | 0 |
| Provin Mt. Farms  | 3 | 2 |
| Village Lounge    | 2 | 3 |
| Fran's Restaurant | 1 | 4 |
| Movie Mart        | 1 | 4 |

|                   | W | L |
|-------------------|---|---|
| NATIONAL DIVISION | 5 | 0 |
| Corner Deli       | 2 | 3 |
| JMC Graphics      | 1 | 4 |
| Lions Club        | 1 | 4 |
| Polish Club       | 1 | 4 |

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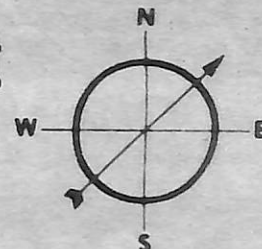
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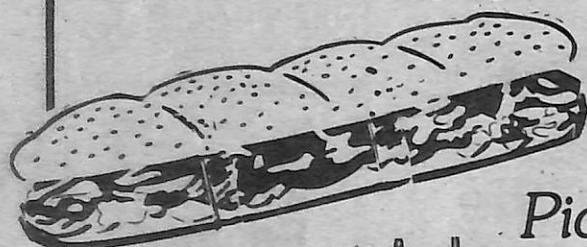
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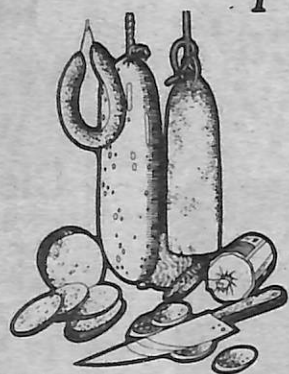
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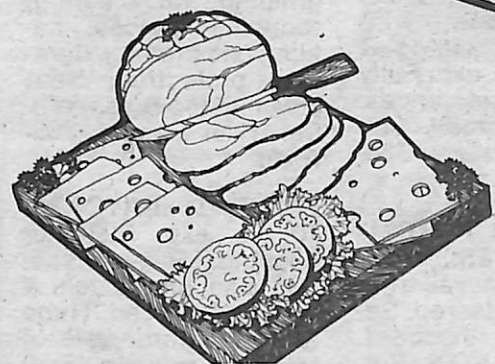
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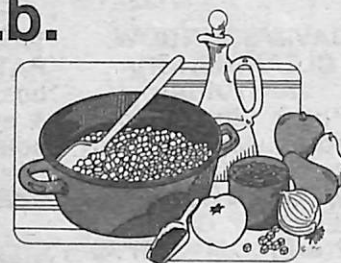
### Deli Specials



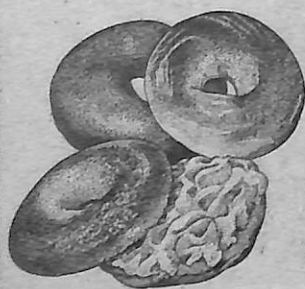
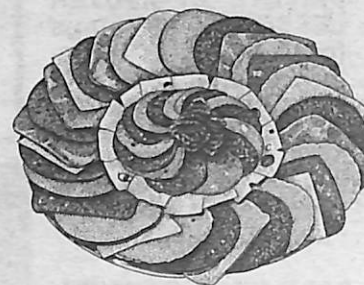
|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Land O' Lakes American Cheese . . . . | \$2.99 Lb. |
| Domestic Ham . . . . .                | \$2.99 Lb. |
| Turkey Breast . . . . .               | \$4.29 Lb. |
| Roast Beef . . . . .                  | \$4.49 Lb. |
| Genoa Salami . . . . .                | \$3.39 Lb. |
| German Bologna . . . . .              | \$1.19 Lb. |



### We Can Do Much For You



- Homemade Party Platters
- Homemade Lasagna Trays
- Homemade Salads
- Homemade Meatball Trays
- Hot Soup Each Weekday
- The Freshest Sandwiches And Grinders In Town
- Hot Coffee Always Brewing, Including Our Gourmet Blends
- Bagels Every Sunday
- Breakfast Pastry, Muffins, And Donuts



### Complete Mass Lottery

• Megabucks

• Mass Cash

• Mass Millions